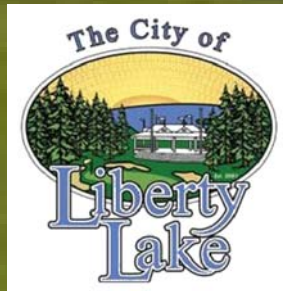


# **CITY OF LIBERTY LAKE PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS PLAN**



***PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION 10/7/05***

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

SECTION I	INTRODUCTION	PAGE
	Purpose of the Plan	5
	Model Park Examples	6
SECTION II	THE SETTING	PAGE
	Planning Area	8
	History	10
	Climate	11
	Terrain	12
	Economy	13
	Population	15
	Land Use	15
SECTION III	EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES	PAGE
	Introduction	16
	City Recreation Areas and Facilities	22
	Areas of Historical Significance	23
	Summary of Physical Issues	24
SECTION IV	PARK REHABILITATION ISSUES	PAGE
	Introduction	26
	Value of Rehabilitation over Replacement	26
	Importance of Rehabilitation	26
	General Rehabilitation Needs	26
	Neighborhood Rehabilitation	26
	Park and Facility Evaluation	26
	Summary of Rehabilitation Issues	26
SECTION V	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS	PAGE
	City Organization Structure	27
	Parks and Recreation Department	27
	City Budget Process	27
	Parks and Recreation Budget	28

SECTION VI	RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES	PAGE
	Relationship between Public and Private Programs	45
	Recreation Program and Service Providers	45
	Deficiencies in Existing Recreation Programs	47
	Summary of Program and Service Issues	47
SECTION VII	PARK AND FACILITY NEEDS	PAGE
	Introduction	48
	Summary of Facility Needs	49
	Park Land Needs	55
SECTION VIII	GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	PAGE
	Introduction	57
	Goals and Objectives	57
SECTION IX	STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS LOCAL, STATE, & NATIONAL CONCERNS	PAGE
	Introduction	62
SECTION X	RECOMMENDATIONS	PAGE
	Introduction	63
	New Park, Recreation, Trails, & Open Space Development	63
	Park Rehabilitation	72
	Management Recommendations	72
	Program and Service Recommendations	72
	Miscellaneous Recommendations	72
SECTION XI	ACTION PLAN	PAGE
	Funding Sources	74
	Capital Improvement Plan	74
	Gaining Support for the Plan	75
	On-Going Citizen Participation	75
	Regional Coordination of Recreation Services	76
	Annual Evaluation and Update	76

Liberty Lake Trails Plan  
Outline of Public Workshop Input Process & Workshop Results  
Focus Groups Individual Comments  
Quadrant Map  
NE Comments  
NW Comments  
SE Comments  
SW Comments  
Public Survey Results  
Site Development Checklist

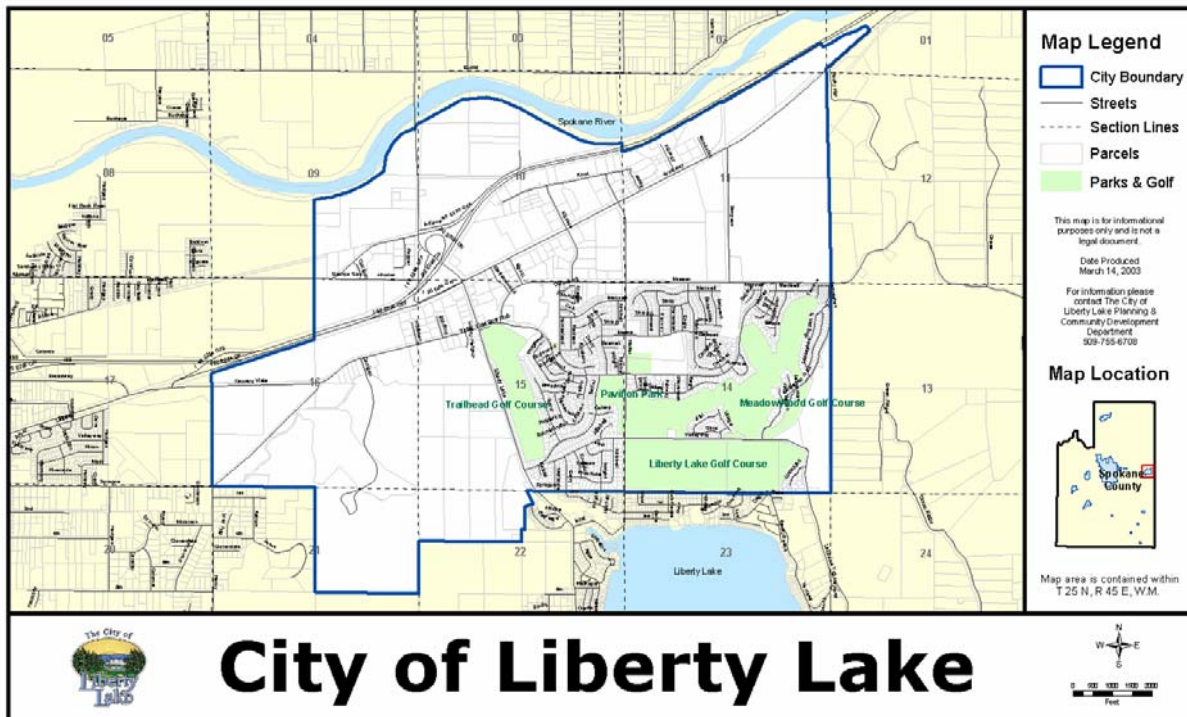
# SECTION I

## INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Plan	5
Model Park Examples	6

### PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The City of Liberty Lake Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan is intended to lay the groundwork for the future of the City park system. The park plan is designed to supplement the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. It expands on the information contained in the Comprehensive Plan by providing significantly greater detail regarding the inventory of park and recreation facilities. This plan inventories existing parks and identifies future park and recreation needs, explores park rehabilitation issues, outlines parks and recreation management and operations, discusses recreation program and services issues, and identifies parks, recreation, and open space goals and objectives. This plan also contains an action plan which describes existing and potential funding sources that will be needed to meet level of service standards and maintain park facilities and recreation services.



This plan contains a detailed inventory of City parks, recreation facilities, open space areas, trails, and related sites. The inventory is supplemented by a description of other facilities available to City residents; specifically, sites and facilities owned by the Central Valley School District and sites located outside of the City that are owned and controlled by Spokane County. The analysis of this inventory involves an assessment of the size, location, and age of each facility, comparing this data to National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) "Recreation, Park, and Open Space Standards and Guidelines". This parks plan was developed pursuant to a public involvement process that sought to actively engage citizens from the Liberty Lake Community.

## MODEL PARK EXAMPLES

---

**Sullivan Road Park (Spokane Valley, WA)** - 10 acre park features large shade trees, river view and access, swingsets, shelter, and free parking.



**Coeur d'Alene City Park (Coeur d'Alene, ID)** - 16.5 acre park features Summer concerts, family and group picnic facilities, volleyball and basketball courts, large shade trees, free parking, lake and beach access, playground with swingsets, and picnic benches.



**Liberty Park (Spokane, WA)** - 22 acre park features picnic tables, mature landscape, softball / baseball fields, swings, parking, lighted tennis court, horseshoe pit, pavilion, and two swimming pools.

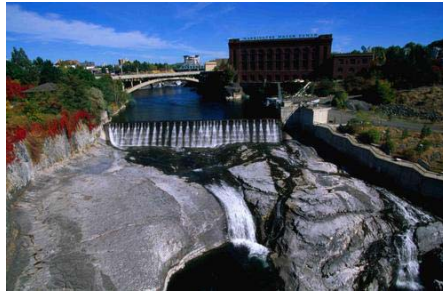
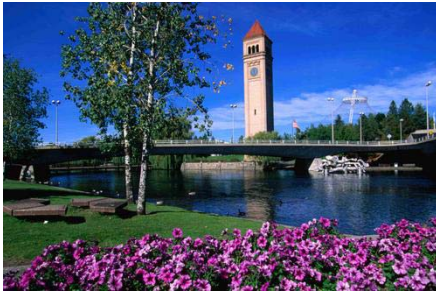


**Manito Park (Spokane, WA)** - 90 acre park features large shade trees, picnic benches, playground, pond, and multiple gardens.



**Riverfront Park (Spokane, WA)** - 100 acre park features mature landscape, picnic tables, trails, playground equipment, carousel and other amusements, winter ice skating, Imax theater, pavilion, river view and scenic gondola rides over the Spokane River Fall, and year round events.





**Minnehaha Park (Minneapolis, MN)** - 193 acre par features a 53 ft. waterfall, creek, trails, picnic area, garden, bandstand, playground, and sculpture.



## **SECTION II**

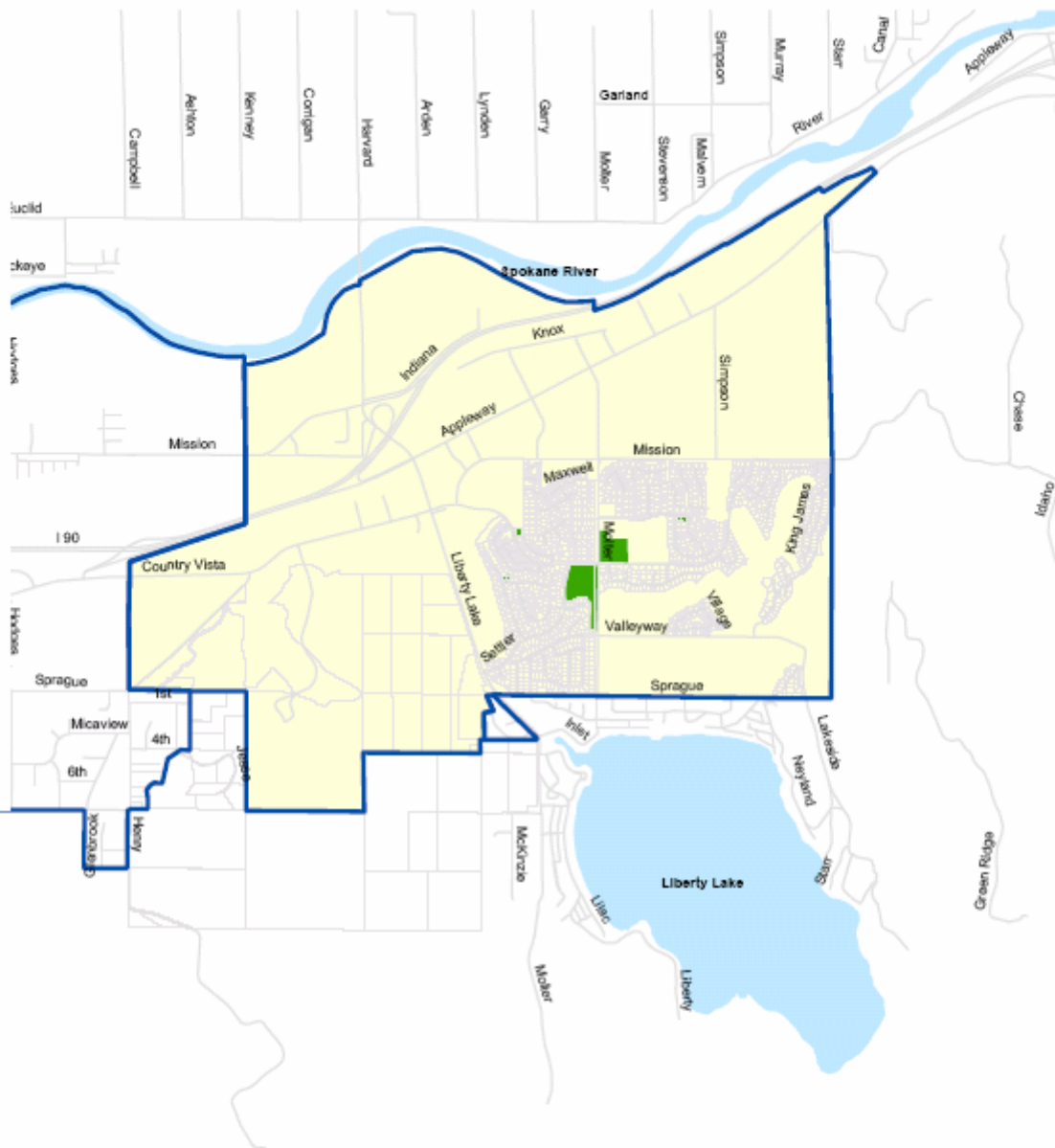
### **THE SETTING**

Planning Area	8
History	10
Climate	11
Terrain	12
Economy	13
Population	15
Land Use	15

#### **PLANNING AREA**

The City of Liberty Lake is located 17 miles east of Spokane and 2 miles west of the Idaho State Line, south of the Spokane River, and north of Liberty Lake. The Liberty Lake Community encompasses the area between the City of Spokane Valley to the west, the Idaho State Line to the East, the Spokane River to the north, and south of Liberty Lake. When planning for our parks and open space needs, the City will be encompassing the entire Liberty Lake Community in our planning area. The following map depicts the planning area for Liberty Lake and shows the existing parks within the City.





This map is for informational purposes only and is not a legal document.

Date Produced: September 17, 2004

For information please contact The City of Liberty Lake Planning & Community Development Department 509-755-6708

Map area is contained within T 25 N, R 45 E, W.M.

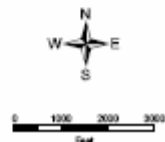
## Map Legend

- UGA Boundary
- City Boundary
- Existing City Parks

## Map Location



## Existing Parks Map



## HISTORY

---

The culture we cherish today began long before the formation of the City of Liberty Lake. The Liberty Lake area was inhabited by Native Americans centuries before the first white settlers came to the area. In 1808, David Thompson, a fur trader, arrived in the area and was soon followed by missionaries. Native Americans still occupied Liberty Lake and surrounding areas as the white settlers began to arrive. According to the book entitled *Memories of Liberty Lake* by Mildred Brereton and Evelyn Foedish, an early fur trader named Ross Cox told tales of the Indians holding horse races on the plains. These horse races were a part of an annual feed on the shores of Liberty Lake that was hosted by Andrew Seltice, Chief of the Coeur d'Alene Indians. After the dinner, everyone enjoyed the horse races and athletic events where prizes were given out. Many families stayed overnight to hear Tecomtee, a Coeur d'Alene tribe member, sing Indian songs out over the Lake. These events were the early recreation for the Liberty Lake Community. In the early 1900's, during the late fall, winter, and early spring, Valley area farmers and ranchers would take advantage of a break from ranch work and get together on Saturday night at the Spokane Bridge near the Washington/ Idaho border for dancing to hill-billy music from around 8 p.m. till dawn. Another winter activity for the locals was Saturday night 500 card parties at one of the area ranches. The basic card game involved tables of four with partners sitting across from each other and working their way up toward a top table by collecting points, with the winners of the evening prize being the partners that reach the top table or 500 points. Also during periods of heavy snow, Saturday night hay rides were available with a team of four horses, complete with sleigh bells, that pulled a bob sled holding about 20 couples sitting on a mattress of straw. The ride toured from Liberty Lake to Newman Lake and around to the Spokane Bridge where they could enjoy the dance hall. Also by the early 1900's, several resorts were being developed around Liberty Lake, and the Lake was quickly becoming a vacation destination for the residents of Spokane and other surrounding areas. Pleasure boats that toured the lake were one of the many amenities that entertained visitors. The Spokane Inland Empire Railway began running electric trains in 1903 from Spokane to Liberty Lake that took around 45 minutes one way and a round trip to and from the Lake cost around 75 cents. The Spokane Inland Empire Railroad developed the Liberty Lake Park in 1909 which became very popular for picnics and other gatherings. The years 1910 to 1915 were the peak for the Liberty Lake Park and Liberty Lake became known as "Spokane's Inland Seashore". The natural beauty that included many different tree varieties and unusual flowers, mixed with the many attractions, made the park very popular. Visitors could rent boats from the Liberty Lake Boat Company for joy rides, enjoy the live band music and dancing at the Pavillion, stay at the hotel or one of the many resorts, rent swimming suits at the Hurtig Bath House, fish, picnic, savor the dining options, or just relax. As in the days of Tecomtee, the music from the Pavillion could be heard throughout the area. All Valley picnics and other business parties became a tradition at the Lake for many people each summer, and in the winter, people could enjoy ice skating on the Lake. The 1920's brought major changes to Liberty Lake. All Valley picnics began in 1922, and 1924 saw the biggest crowd ever for the annual 4th of July celebration. 14,000 people attended the festivities that year, with 9,000 of them arriving by train. With the onset of the automobile as the transportation mode of choice, the trains that had brought so many visitors to Liberty Lake quit running by 1926.

The beautifully maintained Liberty Lake Park was sold and re-named Silver City. It was converted to more of a carnival atmosphere with a ferris wheel, a swing ride, and an unusual carousel. Hand-carved wooden tigers, horses, frogs, cats, and dogs circled the elaborately crafted carousel built by artists and engineers of the Herschell-Spillman Company in 1913. The carousel remained at the Park until 1961 and today it is in the Henry Ford Museum at Dearborn, Michigan. The town was also beginning to develop around the Lake with more homes and supporting businesses and services being constructed. Farming continued with much of the land being covered in orchards and eventually grass fields. By 1951, there were six resorts operating on Liberty Lake and four public beaches. Liberty Lake was becoming known as a suburb of Spokane and development was limited to the Lake area, south of Sprague Avenue. The Liberty Lake Golf Course, the first of the three golf courses in Liberty Lake, was constructed on the northeast corner of Sprague Avenue and Molter Road in 1959. By the 1960's, many

of the original attractions around the Lake were gone. The dance pavilion at the old Liberty Lake Park was destroyed by fire in the summer of 1962. Spokane County bought and created the almost 3000 acre Spokane County Regional Park in 1966 which became the only public beach access, however, a public boat launch was also available on the north side of the Lake. Unfortunately the water quality of Liberty Lake had begun to decline, with algae covering much of the lake. By the 1970's, more resorts had closed and the Liberty Lake Park area was converted into a housing development. In 1991, the last resort on the Lake at Sandy Beach closed. However, the 1970's brought a surge in activity north of Sprague Avenue that would eventually be encompassed within the City of Liberty Lake. The large hill on the west side of the City, formerly known as Carlson Hill, became known as Holiday Hills, a ski and snowmobile recreation destination with a lodge and restaurant. Holiday Hills gave visitors more winter activity choices than just ice skating. An RV Park with an A-Frame office also offered camping in the summer at Holiday Hills. Over the years, the Holiday Hills site was used for equestrian activities, snowmobile and motocross racing, youth sports camps, and ice skating. Unfortunately, due to financial difficulties, Holiday Hills closed by the end of the decade. Recreation opportunities increased in 1973 with the development of the Valley View Golf Course east of Liberty Lake Rd. which was, at the time, the only mid length executive course in the northwest. Housing sales boomed in Liberty Lake in the mid 1990's with the creation of Meadowwood. Meadowwood Golf Course, the third golf course in Liberty Lake, Pavillion Park, and Liberty Lake Elementary School were also completed by the time the City of Liberty Lake officially incorporated on August 31, 2001. With three golf courses in the City limits of Liberty Lake, the Liberty Lake area is now known as a premier golf course community. Cultural traditions were formed during the time when Liberty Lake was known as "Spokane's Inland Seashore". There were Fourth of July Celebrations with fireworks over the lake, live music and dancing at the Pavillion, picnics, boating, and most of all, memories were being created. Although the original buildings no longer exist, the memories and traditions still live on. Families still visit Pavillion Park for picnics, birthdays, and other celebrations. Every year, Liberty Lake draws huge crowds for the annual Fourth of July celebration with a parade by the lake, and live music and dancing at Pavillion Park, which contains a replica of the original Pavillion for the next generation to enjoy. The musical traditions from years past still exist as the music echoes throughout the area. To conclude the festivities, fireworks are still launched over the lake. In 2002, the City purchased the Valley View Golf Course, now known as Trailhead at Liberty Lake, which is located at the center of the City on the corner of Country Vista and Liberty Lake Rd. The Liberty Lake community has also developed new annual traditions that have become a part of the Liberty Lake culture including an Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Lighting Contest, Friends of Pavillion Park Holiday Ball, Community Yard Sale Weekend, and the Pavillion Park summer festival that includes outdoor movies, concerts, and other special events. Very few historical sites and structures remain within the City area. The old Holiday Hill winter recreation area that is now being replatted as a residential development still has the pole barn, track, and the original lodge fireplace. Unfortunately, the original lodge burned down in a fire in the early to mid 1980's.

Another residential plat that is currently under development in the northeast corner of the City, on the north side of Mission Ave., contains a homesite that dates back to the 1940's, with a well house that dates back to the early 1900's. This homesite has the oldest known existing structures within the City of Liberty Lake. The site is included as part of a future park area for the Rocky Hill PUD and should be preserved and protected in the future. The City's other pocket parks and the trail system were created as housing developments were constructed during the 1990's through 2003.

The history section above was derived from Liberty Lake's Cultural & Historical Heritage, prepared by the City of Liberty Lake Planning & Community Development Department (P&CD).

## **CLIMATE**

---

Situated between the Rocky and Cascade Mountain Ranges, Spokane's weather is greatly affected by its physical environment. The region experiences an average annual rainfall of 16-22 inches and an average annual mean temperature of 48 degrees Fahrenheit. The region has a definitive four-season

cycle. The winters tend to be cold with snow, the spring and fall are cool and wet, while the summers tend to be hot and dry. Liberty Lake is surrounded by hillsides and has a slightly different banana belt type climate with more wind than surrounding areas. Tables 1 & 2 show the season differences that Liberty Lake experiences:

**Table 1 - Average Weather**

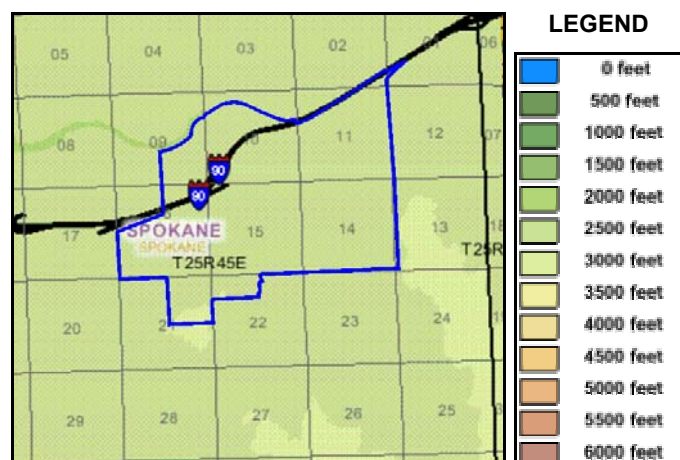
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average temp. (°F)	28.2	33.0	39.6	46.5	54.4	61.3	68.2	68.6	59.6	48.2	36.1	29.3
High temperature (°F)	34.3	40.6	49.1	57.8	66.5	73.7	82.6	83.5	73.6	59.7	42.7	35.0
Low temperature (°F)	22.0	25.4	30.1	35.3	42.4	48.8	53.8	53.7	45.6	36.6	29.5	23.5
Precipitation (in)	2.7	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	2.9	3.0

**Table 2 - Climate**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days with precipitation	14	11	11	9	9	8	5	5	6	8	13	14
Wind speed (mph)	8.7	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.2	9.3	8.6	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.6	8.7
Morning humidity (%)	86	85	82	78	77	75	65	63	70	80	87	88
Afternoon humidity (%)	79	69	55	44	41	36	28	28	34	49	76	83
Sunshine (%)	28	41	55	61	65	67	80	78	72	55	29	23
Days clear of clouds	3	3	5	4	6	7	16	15	12	8	3	3
Partly cloudy days	4	5	8	8	10	10	8	9	8	8	5	4
Cloudy days	24	20	19	17	15	12	6	7	9	15	22	24
Snowfall (in)	15.4	7.6	3.9	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	6.3	14.5

## **TERRAIN**

The Liberty Lake Community is situated amongst a natural setting with surrounding foothills and with a lake and river adjacent to the City. The majority of the City is relatively flat with sloped areas along the eastern and southwestern City boundaries. The elevation of the City is generally around 2000 to 2100 feet with a small portion of Section 21, along the southern City boundary around 2500 feet.



## ECONOMY

The following table represents the local economy profile for Liberty Lake as of the July 2005 Liberty Lake Statistical Snapshot report.

NEW CONSTRUCTION *	2004 Permits	2004 Valuation	2003 Permits	2003 Valuation
Single Family Residential **	87	\$12,248,546	88	\$10,856,700
Specialty Housing ***	0	N/A	0	0
Rental Apartments	1 (192 unit complex)	\$12,869,528	0	0
Commercial / Industrial / Public ****	23	\$43,469,171	24	\$1,033,019
* Number of building permits issued and approximate total valuation for entire year.    ** Townhouse condos are counted as single family homes. *** Includes independent senior, assisted living, nursing home, convalescent home, & Alzheimer's facilities.    **** Includes tenant improvements.				
EMPLOYMENT	July 2004	July 2003	July 2002	July 2001
Employed Residents	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable
Unemployed Residents	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable
Jobless Rate	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable	currently unavailable
BUSINESSES IN LIBERTY LAKE *	July 2005		July 2004	
# of businesses in the City	196		193	
# of people employed in the City	4383		4376	
Largest employers by category & # of people employed in the City (300 or more)	Manufacturing / R&D	1536 +	Manufacturing / R&D	1500 +
	Retail & Grocery Medical	401 +	Retail & Grocery	470 +
	/ Dental	418 +	Medical / Dental	430 +
	Service	354 +	Service	350 +
	Insurance	329 +	Insurance	320 +
Businesses - Number & Percentage of Total	July 2005		July 2004	
<i>Specific business categories</i>	#	%		%
Communications	1	0.5		1.0
Construction	11	5.5		5.0
Financial	10	5.0		5.0
Hotel / Motel	2	1.0		1.0
Insurance	4	2.0		2.0
Manufacturing / R&D	16	8.0		8.0
Medical / Dental	18	9.0		9.0
Professional	27	14.0		14.0
Publishing	1	0.5		1.0
Real Estate & Development	6	3.0		2.5
Recreation / Fitness	4	2.0		2.0
Restaurant - Full Service	4	2.0		3.0

Restaurant - Fast Food / Deli	11	6.0		5.5
Retail & Grocery	33	17.0		16.0
Service (personal, automotive, & childcare)	43	22.0		22.5
Storage	2	1.0		1.0
Wholesale	3	1.5		1.5
* Figures are approximate and were obtained by polling each business and through City business license records. Non-profits not included.				
LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYERS	Businesses - July 2005		Businesses - July 2004	
100 or more employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accra-Fab</li><li>• Agilent Technologies</li><li>• Altek Machining and Molds</li><li>• Getronics</li><li>• Isothermal Research Systems (ISR)</li><li>• Itronix Corp.</li><li>• Merck-Medco</li><li>• Safeco Insurance</li><li>• Software Spectrum</li><li>• Telect</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accra-Fab</li><li>• Agilent Technologies</li><li>• Altek Machining and Molds</li><li>• Getronics</li><li>• Isothermal Research Systems (ISR)</li><li>• Itronix Corp.</li><li>• Merck-Medco</li><li>• Safeco Insurance</li><li>• Software Spectrum</li><li>• Telect</li></ul>	
LARGEST PUBLIC EMPLOYERS *			# of Employees - July 2005	
Central Valley School District - Liberty Lake Elementary			67	
City of Liberty Lake			22 Full Time & 3 Part Time	
Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District			8 Full Time & 3 Part Time	
* Includes permanent employees only, employed at time of poll in July of each year. Figures obtained from each public agency/ internet.				

The following table represents the City finance profile for Liberty Lake as of the July 2005 Liberty Lake Statistical Snapshot report.

<b>ASSESSED VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
	\$509,352,093	\$507,939,063	\$481,164,470	\$452,058,198
<b>REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
City Revenue Per \$1000 Assessed Value	\$1.58 \$2.08 w/ library	\$1.48 \$1.98 w/ library	\$1.53 \$2.03 w/ library	\$1.60 \$2.10 w/ library
Additional Taxed Items	School 356 5.62 State 2.91 Fire 1 3.18 County 1.54 LLTBD 0.122 Library Bond 0.05 Sewer 1 0.016	School 356 5.72 State 2.94 Fire 1 3.18 County 1.57 LLTBD 0.115 Library Bond 0.05 Sewer 1 0.017	School 356 5.60 State 2.91 Fire 1 2.99 County 1.53 LLTBD 0.125 Library Bond 0.05 Sewer 1 0.019	School 356 5.56 State 3.09 Fire 1 2.96 County 1.55 LLTBD 0.1262 Library Bond 0.05 Sewer 1 0.02304
	+ Weed, Aquifer, Conservation, & Stormwater Charge	+ Weed, Aquifer, Conservation, & Stormwater Charge	+ Weed, Aquifer, Conservation, & Stormwater Charge	+ Weed, Aquifer, Conservation, & Stormwater Charge



Total Levi Rate Per \$1000 Assessed Value (approximate)	15.7	15.6	15.3	15.5
---	------	------	------	------

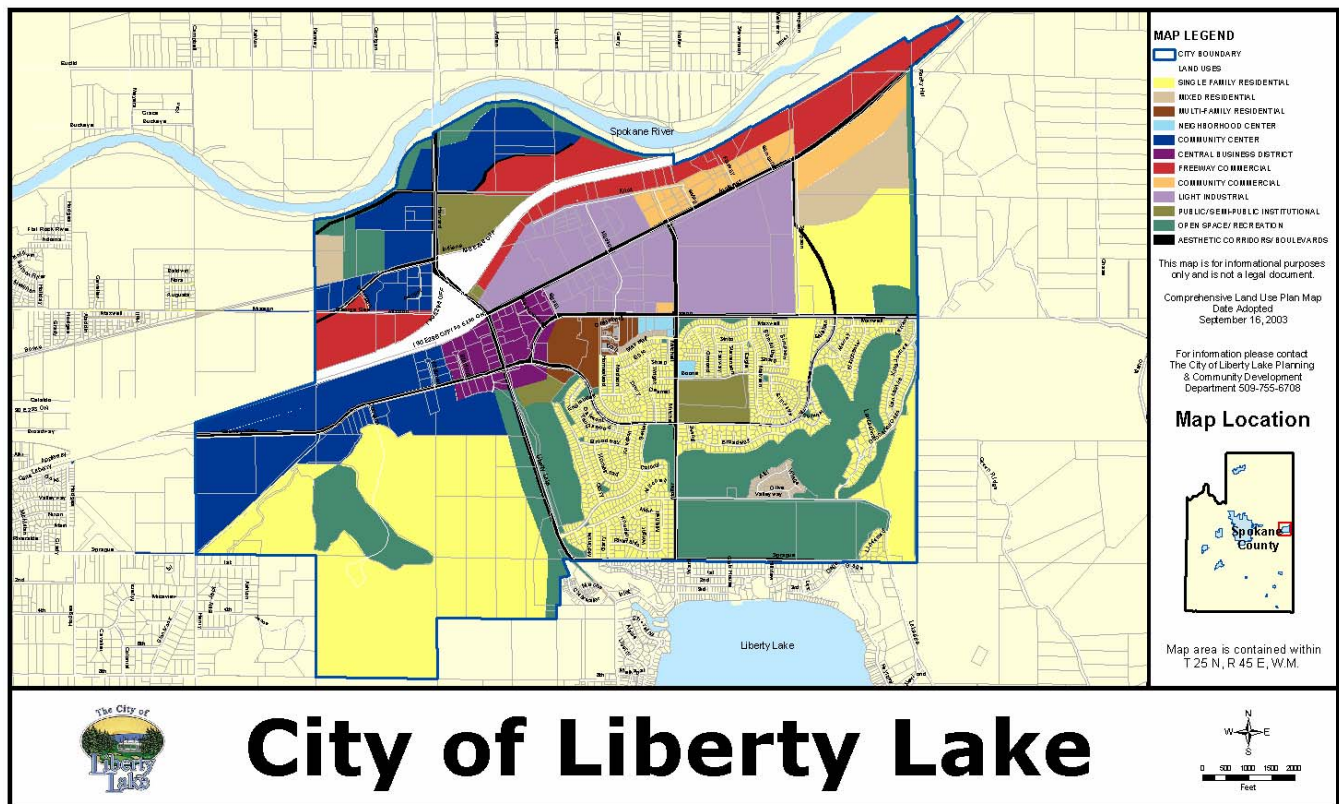
Note: Data is for informational purposes and general comparison only and accuracy cannot be guaranteed.  
Source: City Planning & Community Development Dept., City Finance Dept.

## POPULATION

The Liberty Lake area has been rapidly growing over the past decade. Between 1990 and 2000, the population in what is now the City limits area grew from 600 to 3265, an over 400% increase. When the City officially incorporated on August 31, 2001, the population was 3654. Since incorporation, the City's population has been re-calculated every April by the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) and has increased to 4480 in 2002, 4640 in 2003, 4950 in 2004, and 5255 in 2005. By 2006, the City's population will likely have grown by over 50% since incorporation and a 6% average annual growth rate has been planned for over the next 20 years with an official 2022 population allocation of 10,511.

## LAND USE

The following **Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map was adopted in September 2003** and divides the City into six different basic types of land uses including residential, mixed use, commercial, industrial, public / semi-public institutional, and open space / recreation.



## **SECTION III**

### **EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES**

Introduction	16
City Recreation Areas and Facilities	22
Areas of Historical Significance	23
Summary of Physical Issues	24

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Park and recreation facilities and open spaces are essential to a community's well being. Parks and open spaces help mitigate urban development, provide important ecological functions and provide recreation opportunities for citizens and visitors.

The Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County requires all jurisdictions to adopt a Level of Service (LOS) standard for parks. The City has the flexibility and freedom to establish a LOS standard for parks that reflects the expressed need and desire of the community. The City also has the obligation to ensure that the operation and maintenance needs of existing parks are met. The City's Parks and Open Space LOS is 30 acres per 1000 population which the City exceeds. The City presently boasts a Parks and Open Space LOS of 80 acres per 1000.

Currently, the 14 acre Pavillion Park is the only City owned and maintained park. The Trailhead Golf Course which is also owned by the City, is maintained by the City and paid for through user fees. Other public parks in the City are Five Fingers Park, Little Bear Park, Pumphouse Park, and the Liberty Lake Elementary School facilities. The City of Liberty Lake has approximately 400 acres of Parks and Open Space, including Pavillion Park and three golf courses which total 346.6 acres as well as our existing residential open/ common space which exceeds 50 acres.

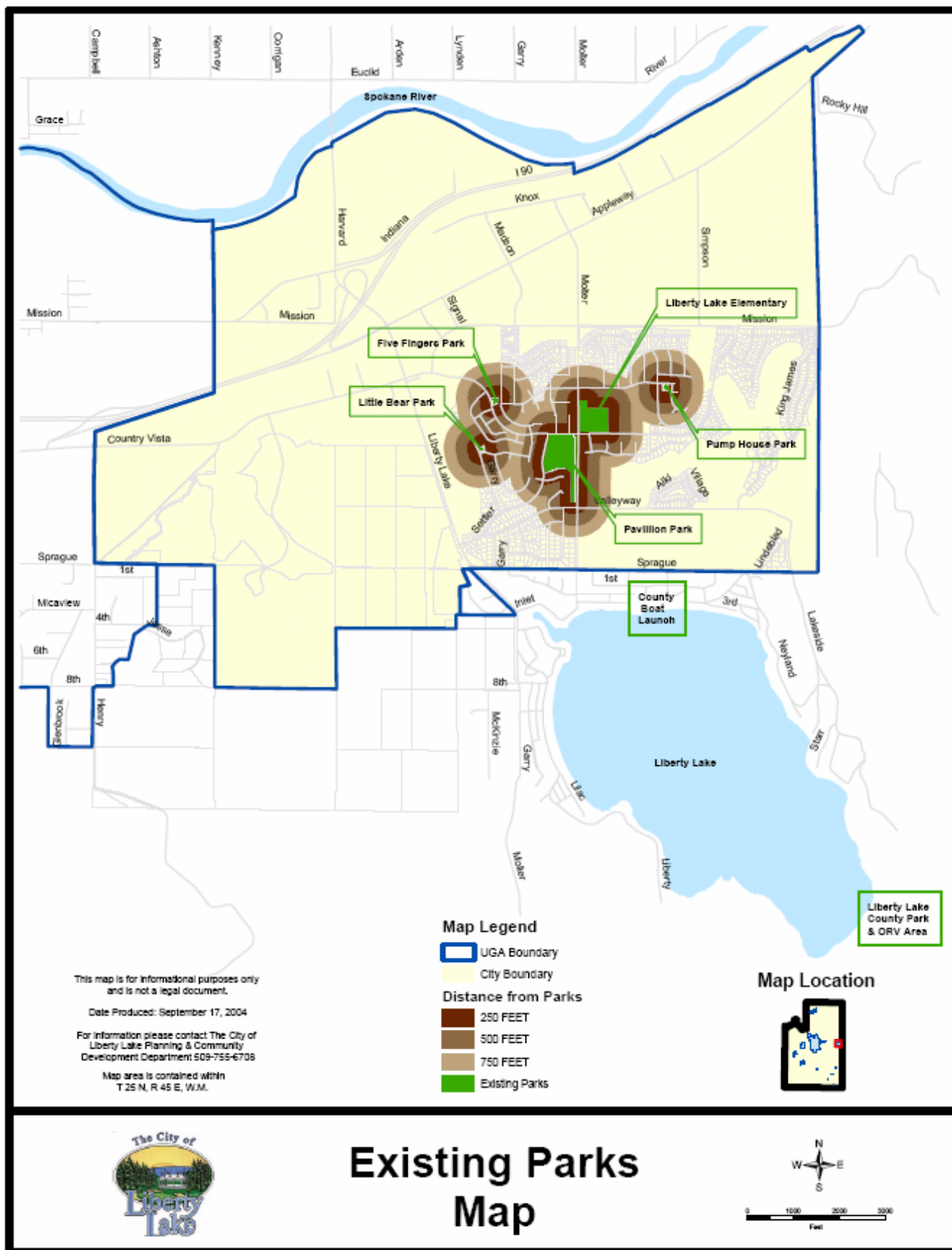
The following map and table is an inventory of the public parks, private parks, recreation, and major open space areas within the City of Liberty Lake. The Greenacres Landfill Reclamation Site that is identified as Open Space /Recreation on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map is not included within the inventory because as a reclamation site it is not useable for 50 years from the date it was designated, which is outside of the 20 year planning horizon. The site including the buffer area totals 57.8 acres and is contained within a residential plat. In addition the City has the Rocky Hill neighborhood (a final plat under phase I development). The project includes a public park site that will be approximately 17 acres in size.

#### **Parks & Open Space Adopted LOS = 30 Acres/1000 Population**

<b>year</b>	<b>population</b>	<b>acres/1000</b>
2004	4950	80.8
2005	5226	76.5
2006	5501	72.7
2007	5777	69.2
2008	6052	66.1
2009	6328	63.2

**(Current LOS = 80 acres/ 1000 Population)**

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
OPEN SPACE	LIBERTY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (PLAY FIELD)	23606 E. BOONE AVE.
PUBLIC PARK	PAVILLION PARK	CORNER MOLTER & COUNTRY VISTA
OPEN SPACE	OPEN SPACE IN THE MEADOWS (ASSOCIATION COMMON AREA)	CORNER OF SINTO & MALVERN
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	PUMP HOUSE PARK IN LIBERTY LANDING (ASSOCIATION COMMON AREA)	CORNER OF BOONE & SIMPSON
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	LITTLE BEAR PARK IN THE GARDENS (ASSOCIATION COMMON AREA)	CORNER OF GARRY & BROADWAY
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	FIVE FINGERS PARK IN THE COTTAGES (ASSOCIATION COMMON AREA)	OFF HOMESTEAD & COUNTRY VISTA
OPEN SPACE	PLAYGROUND IN BIG TROUT (PRIVATE COMMON AREA)	OFF COUNTRY VISTA
OPEN SPACE / RECREATION	TRAILHEAD AT LIBERTY LAKE (CITY GOLF COURSE)	1102 N. LIBERTY LAKE RD.
OPEN SPACE / RECREATION	MEADOWWOOD GOLF COURSE (COUNTY GOLF COURSE)	24501 E. VALLEYWAY
OPEN SPACE / RECREATION	LIBERTY LAKE GOLF COURSE (COUNTY GOLF COURSE)	24403 E. SPRAGUE
PUBLIC TRAIL	CENTENNIAL TRAIL	MULTIPLE
PUBLIC TRAIL	LIBERTY LAKE TRAIL SYSTEM	MULTIPLE
OPEN SPACE	VARIOUS COMMON AREA TRACTS	MULTIPLE





**Pavillion Park - 14 acre park at the Corner of Country Vista Blvd. & Molter Rd.**



**Liberty Lake Elementary School - Between Country Vista Blvd. & Boone, East of Molter**



**Little Bear Park - Pocket Park at the Corner of Garry & Broadway in the Gardens Neighborhood**



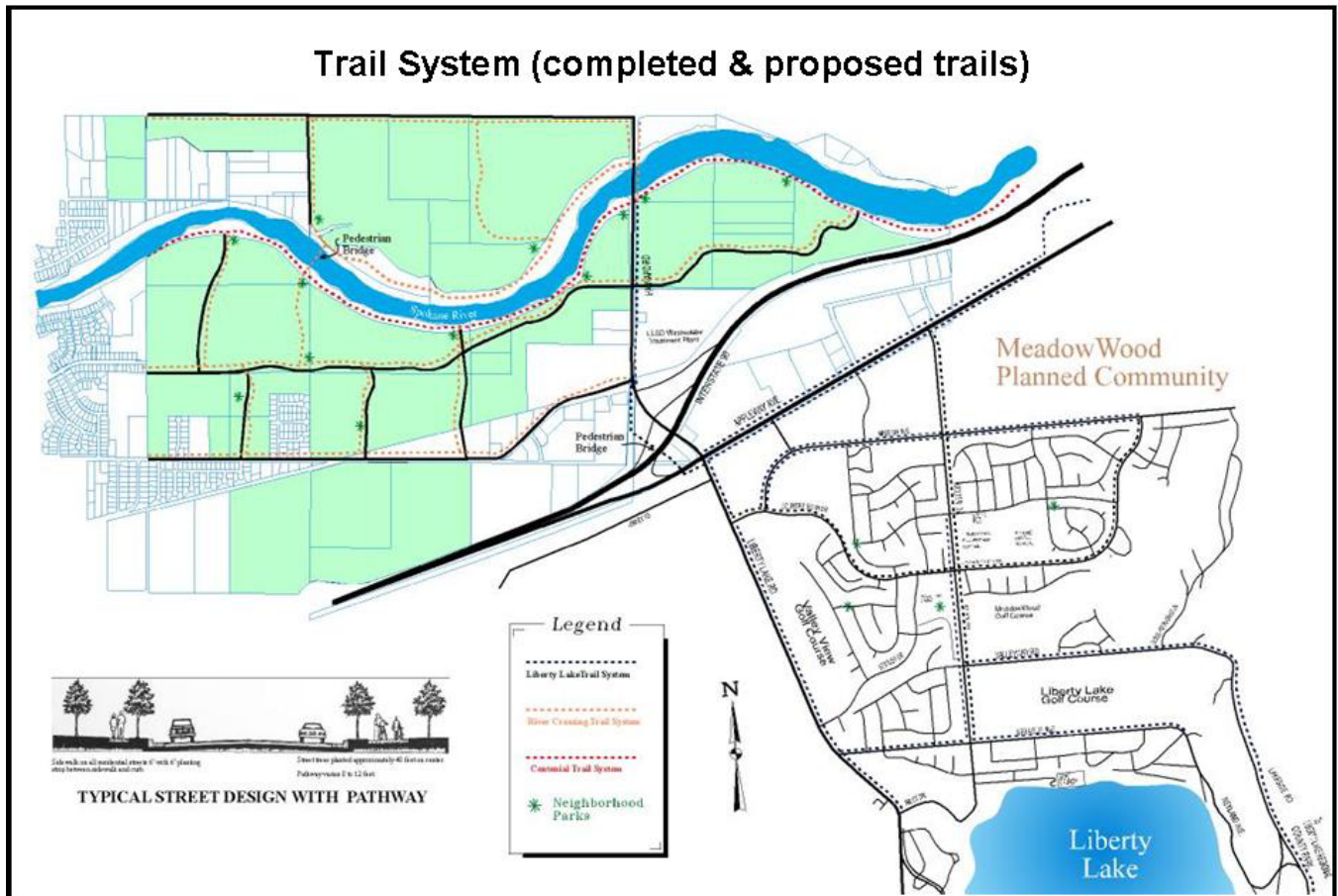
**Pump House Park - Pocket Park at the Corner of Boone & Simpson in the Liberty Landing Neighborhood**



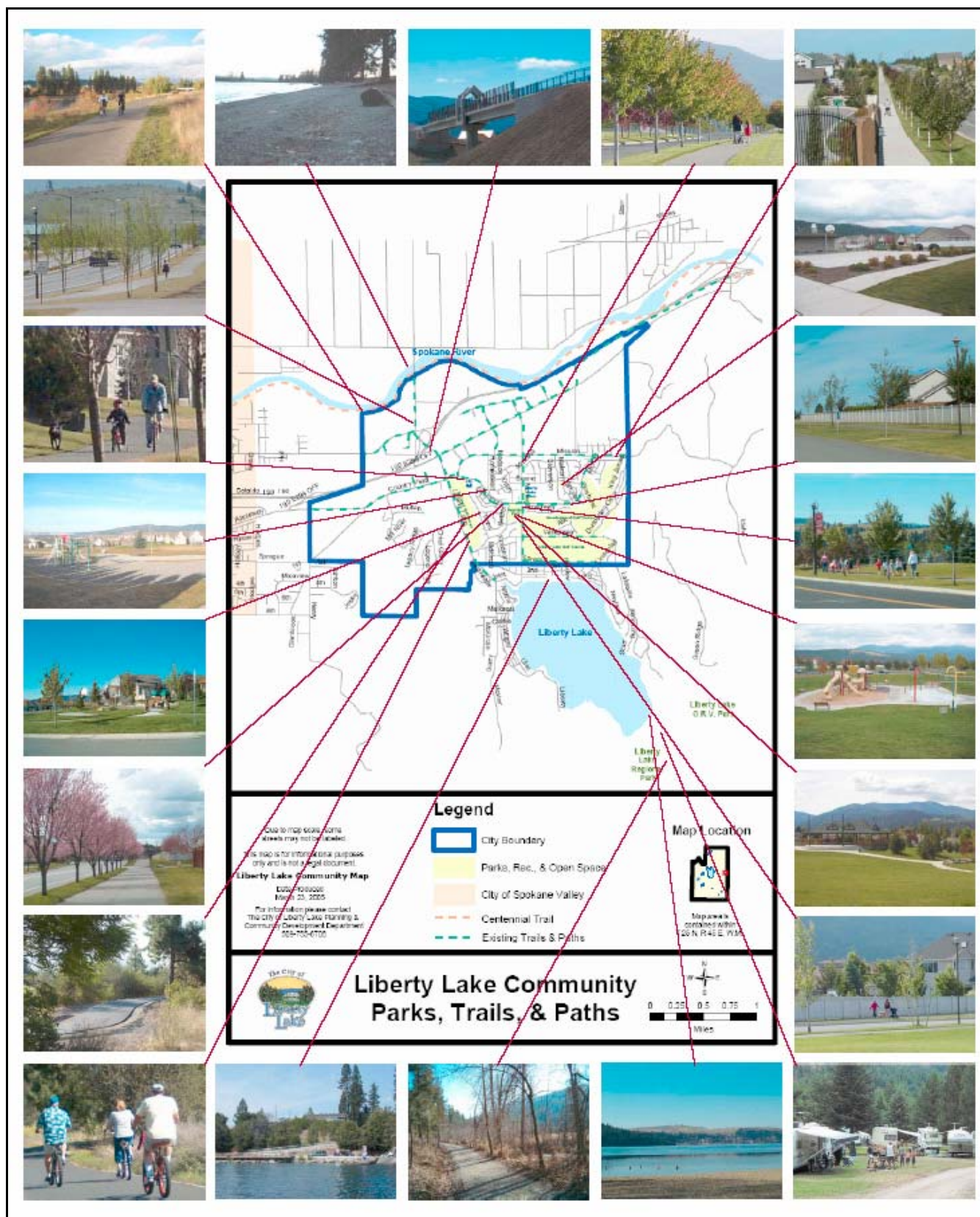
**Five Fingers Park - Pocket Park off Homestead & Country Vista Blvd. in the Cottages Neighborhood**



**Liberty Lake Trail System - Circulates through the community with connections to the Centennial Trail & neighborhood sidewalks and paths to provide a continuous pedestrian and bicycle transportation system**







## CITY RECREATION AREAS & FACILITIES

The following table outlines the existing City of Liberty Lake Recreation Areas and Facilities with their location(s) and the year the facility was constructed, and if applicable, remodeled. Some facilities identified in the chart on page 15 are not listed here because they are private facilities and not open to the public on a regular basis or by membership.

<b>Liberty Lake Park Facility Categories</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Facility Location</b>	<b>Year Constructed / Remodeled</b>
Amphitheater	1	Pavillion Park	1998
Baseball / Softball Fields	1 Practice Field	Pavillion Park	1998
Baseball / Softball Fields	2 Practice Fields	Liberty Lake Elementary	1998
Community Building	0	N/A	N/A
Fishing Facility / Access	3	Outside City (Liberty Lake, Spokane River)	N/A
Football Fields (multi-use field)	see Soccer Fields	Pavillion Park, Liberty Lake Elementary	see Soccer Fields
Gymnasium	1	Liberty Lake Elementary	1998
Horseshoe Pits	2	Pavillion Park	1998
Maintenance Building	0	N/A	N/A
Multi-Use Trails (pathways & sidewalks, excluding residential neighborhoods)	25.15 miles	Throughout Community	Varies
Nature / Historic Sites	3 Historic Sites	Rocky Hill, Outside City (Liberty Lake County Park & Horsekill Monument at Spokane Bridge)	Varies
Outdoor Basketball Courts	3 full courts (2 multi-use)	Pavillion Park	1998
Outdoor Basketball Courts	1 half court	Pump House Park	2002
Outdoor Basketball Courts	6 half courts	Liberty Lake Elementary	1998
Outdoor Basketball Courts	1 mini-court	Little Bear Park	2001
Picnic Shelter Area	1 Pavillion replica	Pavillion Park	1998
Playground	1 w/ water toys	Pavillion Park	1998
Playground	1	Liberty Lake Elementary	1998
Playground	1	Pump House Park	2002
Playground	1	Little Bear Park	2001
Playground	1	Five Fingers Park	1995
Pond / River / Wetland	N/A	Outside City (Liberty Lake, Spokane River)	N/A

Restroom Facility	1	Pavillion Park	1998
Skate Park	0	N/A	N/A
Soccer Fields (multi-use field)	1	Pavillion Park	1998
Soccer Fields	1	Liberty Lake Elementary	1998
Swimming Pool (Indoor)	2	Provided at 2 privately owned recreation clubs, within or adjacent to Liberty Lake	N/A
Swimming Pool (Outdoor)	0	N/A	N/A
Tennis Courts	1	Pavillion Park	1998
Volleyball	1	Pavillion Park	1998
Wooded / Green Space	N/A	Throughout Community	N/A

## **AREAS OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Liberty Lake community has an extensive history from Native American inhabitants, to settlers, to the residents and activities of today. Liberty Lake, in the early 20th century became known as "Spokane's Inland Seashore" with several resorts operating around the lake, along with the creation of the Liberty Lake Park with the original dance pavillion. Within the Liberty Lake Community there are three remaining historic sites within park or natural areas. The new Rocky Hill Park site contains the oldest structures within the City of Liberty Lake, a homesite with a barn that dates back to the 1940's and a well house that dates back to the early 1900's. The barn and well house will be preserved and incorporated into the design of Rocky Hill Park. Outside the City, Liberty Lake County Park contains a marker identifying the creation and history of the lake, and the Horsekill Monument at Spokane Bridge (located within the Stateline Rest Area), documents the Horse Slaughter Camp event of 1858. In addition, Pavillion Park contains two memorials dedicated to families that helped establish the Liberty Lake area and the "Legend Tree" located within the Legacy Ridge PUD has been preserved as a landmark heritage tree at over 100 years old. The pavilion structure itself, the centerpiece of Pavillion Park, also serves to document the history of the community as a replica of the original dance pavillion that was located in the Liberty Lake Park in the early 20th century. For more information on Liberty Lake history, refer to Chapter 10 of the City of Liberty Lake Comprehensive Plan.







## **SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL ISSUES**

During the initial public participation process for the creating this plan, four workshops were held from January 2005 to April 2005. Surveys were also available during this time to help the City gather input on existing and future parks, recreation, open space, and trail needs. The following is a brief summary of survey responses concerning physical issues.

As you think about Liberty Lake Parks, Trails and Open Space, what issues or concerns would you list?

- Too much development, not enough parks, trails, etc.
- Different parks that have different themes / uses
- Types of facilities
- Facilities need to adequately accommodate the growing population as the community grows, capacity for future size of neighborhood
- Crowding
- Need more tennis courts, more tennis facilities, improved tennis courts
- Most tennis clubs in Auckland, New Zealand, for example, have 3 or 4 courts and a small “clubhouse”. I am wondering about having a “tennis club” at Rocky Hill Park... the park is really too small for soccer fields or other playfields. The tennis courts could be located in the SE corner, near the little rental house. The house could become the “clubhouse” for the tennis club.
- Swings, adding of swings, swing sets, I’d like to see a swing set at any park, we would like to have swings for older kids as well as safety ones for babies
- More play equipment for kids, too crowded during daycare usage
- Possibly change volleyball court area into a tennis court area, sand volleyball are could be eliminated for better use (tennis court, playground, or whatever is needed)
- Increased soccer opportunities (larger than Pavillion Park, 5 or 6 fields for games)
- Neighborhood pool, in-ground pool, I’d like to see a wading pool anywhere, a wading pool (i.e., Millwood – 12” deep?)
- Ice skating could be available in the winter by flooding un-used parking lots.
- Construct a mini-golf, putting course, or frisbee golf course.
- Need trails to extend down Molter toward the lake and along Inlet Drive (narrow roads, bike lanes), linking a trail from S. Molter to L.L. County Park, would hate to see a paved trail around the south end of the lake. [It] would encourage more traffic, crime, and less wildlife enjoyment, finishing/connecting trails. Continue trail system; especially to include “loop” around golf courses (Neyland and Lakeside). Many people walk this route on a daily basis, and it is very dangerous as there is no trail, sidewalk, or shoulder on this road.

- I am advocating more BIKE TRAILS... both on the west and east sides of the lake, the main roads (Garry turning into Molter and East Valleyway Ave) are very narrow and dangerous; they are barely wide enough for two cars. Access by foot and bike (bike lane) would be greatly improved by widening and possibly adding sidewalks.
- The trail system should provide connection to the entry of gated neighborhoods within the City, although public access to the trails / paths within the gated neighborhoods is generally not available
- Community garden in a park setting. Similar to the Manito/rose gardens where people can picnic, have weddings, etc. Suggestions: a Liberty Lake Garden Club could be established and assist in the planning, planting, and maintenance of the garden. School kids could have a “plot” to grow vegetables as part of a science project, vegetables grown can then be donated to the food bank.
- I believe a goal for any park system is to not burden the limited tax dollar and the parks should be designed with that goal in mind – there are ways to reduce the burden by using ‘LEED’ or ‘Build Green’ concepts. These alone cannot fill the gap, but together with revenue generation goals can greatly reduce the cost of operating a park or park system.
- Loss of open space for birds, serenity, Create a wildlife viewing shelter with bird feeders, etc. that could possibly be incorporated into a garden area
- Pollution run off into the lake and river
- Safety
- Maintenance, improved watering / tree replacement, invasive / noxious weed removal / re-landscape native plants, bathroom facilities need improvement
- Parks north of I-90
- Access to river, access
- Build the City of Liberty Lake Park on the lake in MacKenzie Bay on land purchased from the Hauteus.
- Lake access along N. side of lake, walkable from City
- Lake access! Walking distance from Pavillion Park
- Increased public art
- Creating pedestrian-friendly town center
- Explore the possibility of adding a second pedestrian / bicycle connection to the Centennial Trail over I-90, in the eastern portion of the City

## **SECTION IV**

### **PARK REHABILITATION ISSUES**

Introduction	26
Value of Rehabilitation over Replacement	26
Importance of Rehabilitation	26
General Rehabilitation Needs	26
Neighborhood Rehabilitation	26
Park and Facility Evaluation	26
Summary of Rehabilitation Issues	26

#### **INTRODUCTION**

---

Park rehabilitation involves restoring a park or recreation facility when it has become old and worn, and in need of repair. As the City's Park and Recreation facilities age, renovation may need to be done to keep them in proper working order and maintain the community aesthetics, level of service, and possibly the historical character. Currently, due to the young age of the existing facilities, rehabilitation is not needed, however this section has been included and will be added to in future plan revisions when rehabilitation needs arise.

#### **VALUE OF REHABILITATION OVER REPLACEMENT**

---

#### **IMPORTANCE OF REHABILITATION**

---

#### **GENERAL REHABILITATION NEEDS**

---

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD REHABILITATION**

---

#### **PARK AND FACILITY EVALUATION**

---

#### **SUMMARY OF REHABILITATION ISSUES**

---



## **SECTION V**

### **MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS**

City Organization Structure	27
Parks and Recreation Department	27
City Budget Process	27
Parks and Recreation Budget	28

#### **CITY ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE**

The City of Liberty Lake operates as a Code City with a strong mayor / council form of government. The City Administrator oversees City operations and specifically the maintenance and operations of City owned facilities. Currently the Trailhead Golf Course staff maintains both the City owned Trailhead Golf Course and Pavillion Park, and the landscaping along a portion of the City right-of-ways / trails. Daily operation tasks are split between the Trailhead Golf Course staff and the Planning & Community Development Dept., which currently handles all the scheduling for Friend's of Pavillion Park public events and numerous private reservations. The maintenance of the remaining parks and recreation facilities is conducted by homeowner's associations or landowners, including the Central Valley School District and Spokane County.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

The City of Liberty Lake currently, does not have a parks and recreation department. Maintenance of City owned facilities is handled by the Trailhead Golf Course staff and non-City owned facilities are maintained by homeowner's associations or landowners, including the Central Valley School District and Spokane County. Golf recreation programs are offered through the Trailhead Golf Course and Spokane County's Meadowood and Liberty Lake Golf Courses. Other recreation programs are offered by the two privately owned recreation clubs, within or adjacent to the City, several independent clubs and teams, and the Friends of Pavillion Park. Community events are coordinated by the City of Liberty Lake, the Friends of Pavillion Park, and specific event committees.

#### **CITY BUDGET PROCESS**

The City Budget is a key management tool designed to provide essential structure for the financial planning, control, and evaluation for revenues and expenditures. The Mayor and Council's goals and directives set the tone for budget development. Annually, the Mayor and Council hold a late summer retreat to identify priorities, issues, and capital project expenditures. In addition, the Mayor and Council identify key policy issues that provide the direction and framework of the budget. At the most basic level, the budget is a legal document that gives City Officials the authority to collect designated revenues and incur obligation expenses. Lastly, the budget allocates resources and authorized expenditures among departments, reflecting the legislative priorities and policies.

The budget process "officially" begins on the second Monday in September, followed by staff and City Council workshops, and two public hearings. By December 31st the budget must be approved.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET**

---

Parks system budgeting consists of three basic elements:

- Land costs
- Site improvement costs, and
- Ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

### **Land Costs:**

Land costs are typically the single most costly component of park system development. Fortunately, since the majority of housing within the City of Liberty Lake is platted as Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), developers donated land for parks and open space as a part of the platting process. All land that has been donated for parks and open space has been developed, with the exception of the acreage at the Rocky Hill Neighborhood which will be master planned as a part of this Plan. It is unlikely during the timeframe of this Plan that the City will have to purchase any land for parks or open space. If additional land is required, the following criteria can be used as points to consider when looking at different parcels of land:

- Is the site located appropriately for its intended use - i.e. centrally for community wide parks?
- Are there safety concerns with the site - i.e. traffic, crime, etc.?
- Is the site topography proper for the proposed facility?
- Does the site have the necessary infrastructure available?
- Does the site have access to the Spokane River?
- Does the site have access to Liberty Lake?
- Does the site contain environmentally sensitive areas? If yes, please identify:
- If facilities on the site will be lit, will the lighting be a nuisance to nearby residents?
- Will the sounds from activities proposed for the site be a nuisance to nearby residents?
- Does the site topography allow naturally for the separation of activities?
- Will extensive site landscaping be needed?
- Is there existing off site parking near the site?
- Is it desirable to have the site strategically located (i.e. near the Central Business District, library, etc.)?
- Will existing traffic egress and ingress to the site be changed by higher intensity use?
- Is the site historically or culturally significant? If yes, please identify:

### **Site Improvement, Operation, & Maintenance Costs:**

Once land has been acquired for parks and recreation uses it incumbent upon the City to improve that land with facilities that are in demand from the citizens. The types and quantities of facilities are discussed in this Plan. Here, the costs of various facilities are enumerated. These costs were developed in late 2003 and should remain current enough for planning level budgeting purposes for some time.

Facility	Construction Cost	Estimated Weekly Maintenance (in season)
Baseball	\$90,000 - \$200,000	16 - 20 hours
Soccer	\$60,000 - \$95,000	12 - 16 hours
Tennis	\$25,000 - \$55,000	1 - 2 hours per court
Basketball	\$30,000 - \$45,000	.5 - 1 hour per court
Volleyball	\$6,000 - \$10,000	.5 - 1 hour per court
Swimming Pool	\$100,000 - \$200,000	30 - 40 hours
General Park	\$50,000 - \$70,000	17 - 21 hours
BMX	\$10,000 - \$25,000	10 - 12 hours
Skate Park	\$100,000 - \$150,000	2 - 3 hours
Playground	\$20,000 - \$30,000	2 - 3 hours
Paved Trail	\$32,000 per linear 1000 feet at 8' width	2 - 3 hours

### **Park & Recreation Facility Pricing Assumptions**

- All prices are planning level estimates only and represent costs as if all work were out-sourced to professional contractors – there is the potential for considerable savings by completing many park improvements in-house.
- Flat, slab concrete work is priced \$4 per sq. ft. installed
- All minimum costs represent adequate and functional regulation facilities
- All court or field requires space around the court or field, thus all facility area requirements note both the actual playing surface area coverage and the total area coverage of recommended boundary areas.
- Prices do not include general landscaping and screening costs (other than in the general parkland specifications). For example, a baseball fields located close to residential neighborhoods or major roads may require extensive landscaping to separate view plains.
- Total costs for a full time maintenance employee is \$15 per hour
- Operations and maintenance costs include both the staff and materials cost to perform maintenance (e.g. light bulb and fertilizer costs are included in the annual baseball/softball field operations cost)
- Fencing is generally priced at the following
  - 4' height = \$7 per linear foot
  - 6' height = \$9 per linear foot
  - 10' height = \$15 per linear foot
- Sod is priced at \$7 per square foot installed
- Lighting is priced at 30 candle feet per 1500 sq. ft. of area lighted for equipment and installation at \$2,275 – note that this price can fluctuate enormously depending on materials, location, lighting codes, etc.
- Spectator seating for 30 people may be added at \$800 per bleacher unit (class B bleacher unit), and \$2,000 per unit for 50 people (class A bleacher unit)

- FTE (full-time-employee) estimates are based on how many full time employees (based on 2080 total annual working hours) it will take annually to complete the maintenance on that particular facility. For example, it takes .3 FTE's to maintain a single baseball field, if a community possessed three regulation baseball fields, it would likely require the hiring of a full time employee just to maintain those facilities through the season.
- Most figures obtained from the State of Colorado, Small Community Park & Recreation Planning Standards.

### **Parks & Recreation Facilities:**

- **Baseball / Softball Fields**

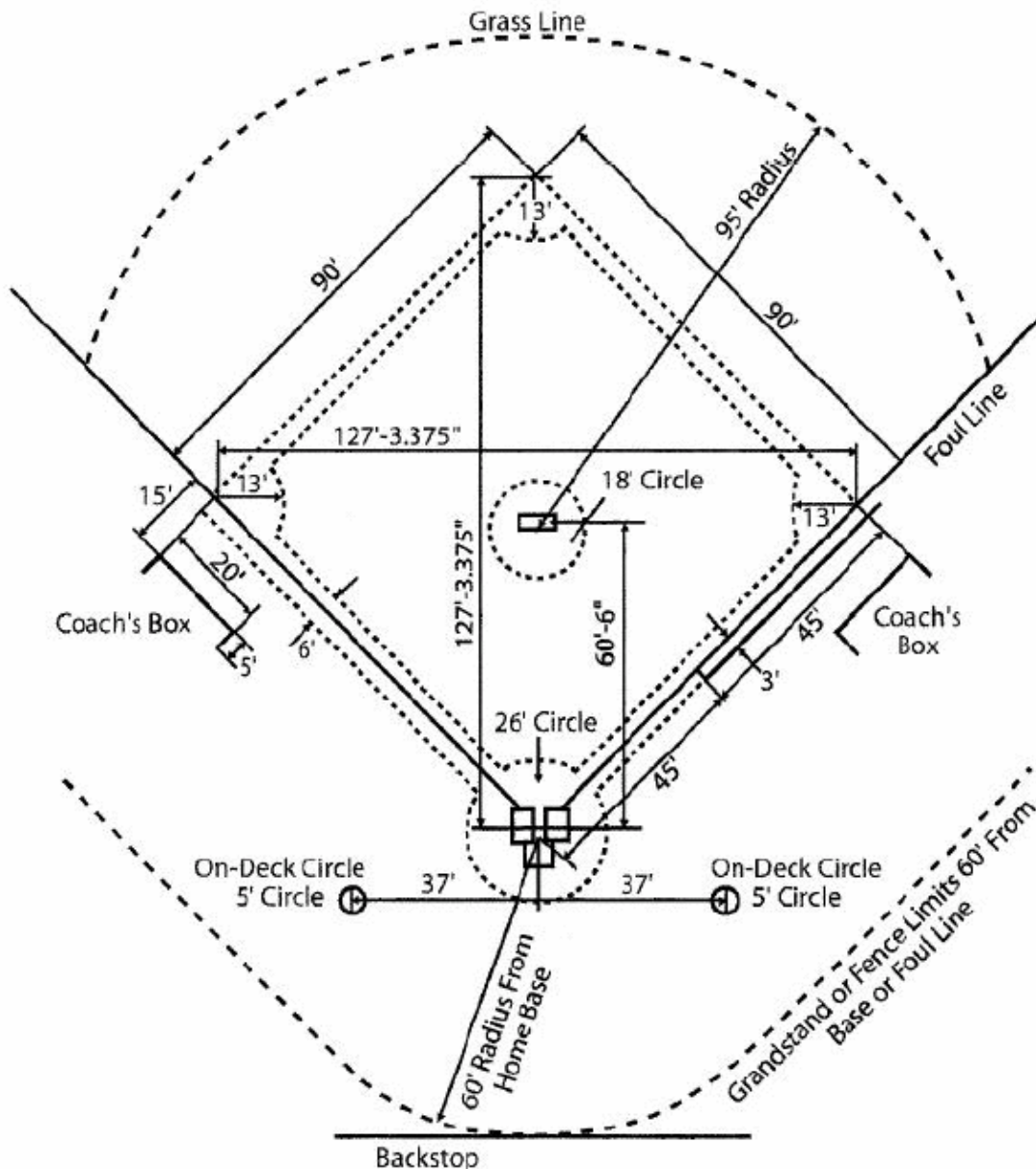
- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$90,000 - \$500,000
- Orientation Location: Home plate to second base North - South
- Field Area Coverage: 160,000 sq. ft. or 3.7 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 16 - 20 hours during season (26 weeks)
- Estimated Annual Operations & Maintenance Cost: \$16,000 - \$20,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .25 - .3
- Specifications Summary: Full sized (professional/college) field that can be adapted for every level of play including men's and women's softball, little league, college, fast, and slow pitch.

<b>Example Field</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>
Field (landscaping & drainage)*	\$77,000	\$40,000
Bases	\$400	\$2000
Lights	\$30,000	\$10,000
Fencing	\$30,000	\$10,000
Backstop	\$2600	\$1800
Irrigation	\$37,000	\$22,000
Seating, Spectator	\$8000	\$3200
Seating, Team	\$2000	\$1200
Scoreboard	\$2000	\$1000
Concession	\$7500	\$3000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196,500</b>	<b>\$92,400</b>

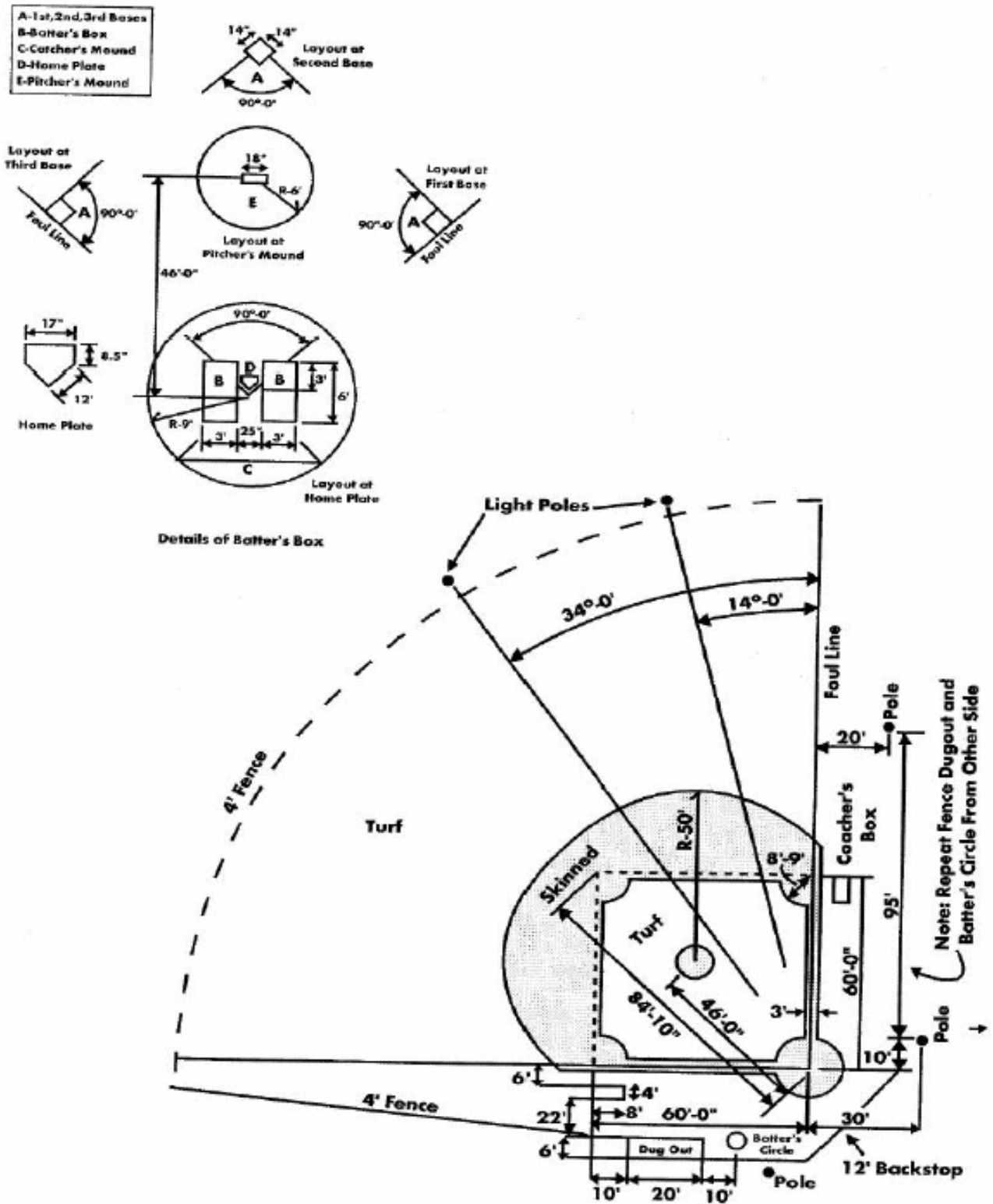
Class A fields generally possess elements making them serviceable for longer periods of time including higher quality turf, comprehensive low maintenance irrigation systems, lighting suitable for nighttime play, improved infield materials (fast drying clays and soils), higher quality seating for spectators and teams, permanent electronic scoreboards, efficient drainage systems, extensive fencing for securing the field when not in use, on-site maintenance facilities, and larger concession services. Many of these facilities also require significant investment in on-site utility infrastructure including water, drainage culverts, and electricity. Class A fields have a higher capacity and are generally appropriate for towns in the 5-10,000 + population range.

Class B fields are serviceable playing surfaces with less sophisticated drainage systems (typically perimeter drainage only), utilization of soils existing on site, limited (if any) lighting, fencing for safety purposes only, temporary scoreboards, minimal but adequate irrigation systems, primitive (if any) concession facilities, throwdown bases, and generally lower capacity, seating for teams and spectators. These fields generally require only minimal (generally raw water) infrastructure improvements. Both field types are amenable to easy conversion to different play types including slow and fast pitch softball, regulation baseball, and little league play.

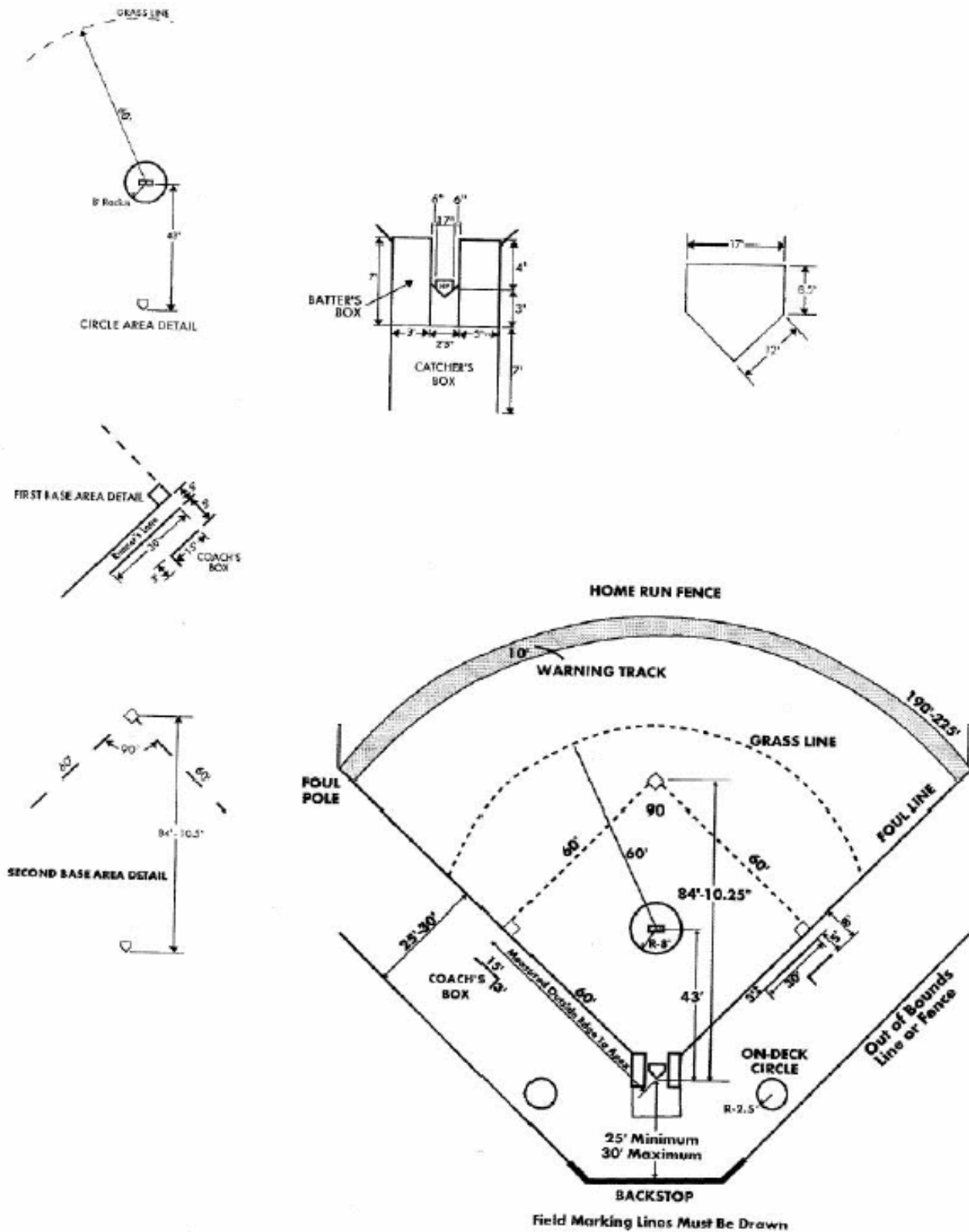
### **Professional, College, & High School Field**



## Little League Baseball Field

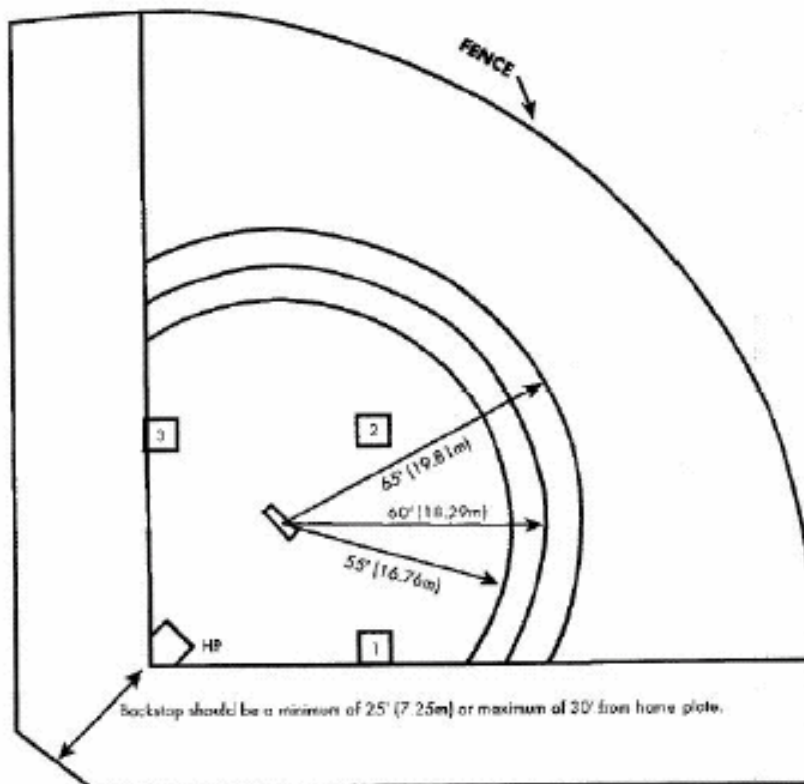


## Fastpitch Softball Field



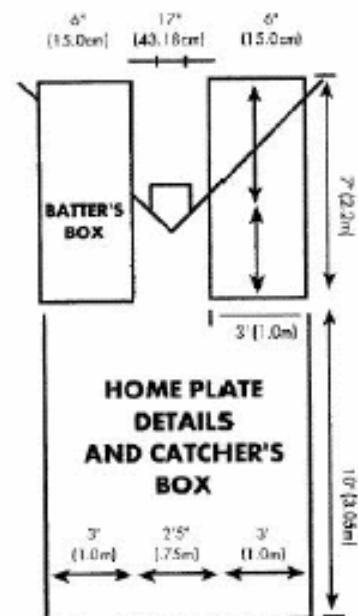
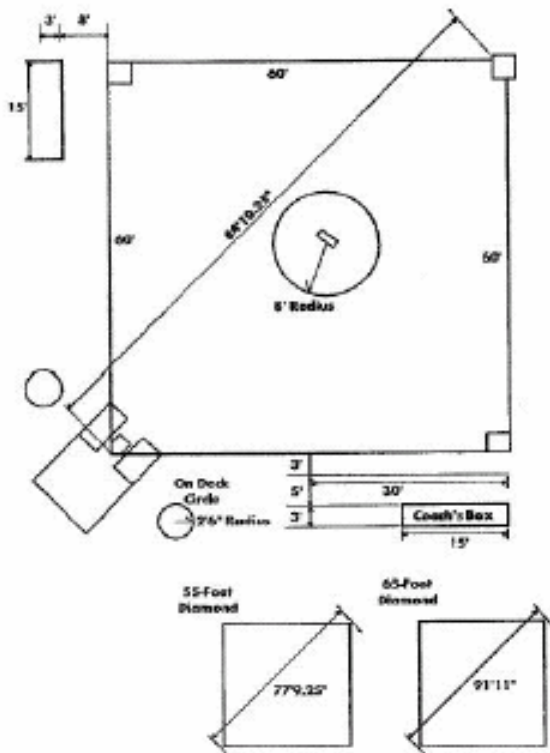
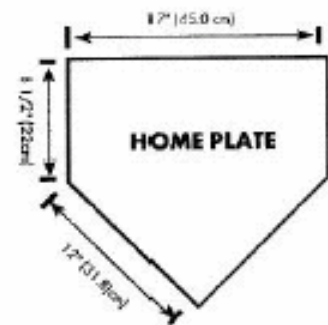
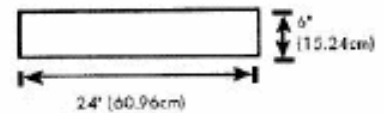


## Slowpitch Softball Field



Skinned infield: A 55' (16.76m) and 60' (18.29m) radius may be used with the front center of the 46" (11.68cm) pitcher's plate as the center point of the arc. The 60' (18.29m) is recommended for 60' bases. For 65' bases, a 65' (19.81m) radius is recommended.

### PITCHER'S PLATE



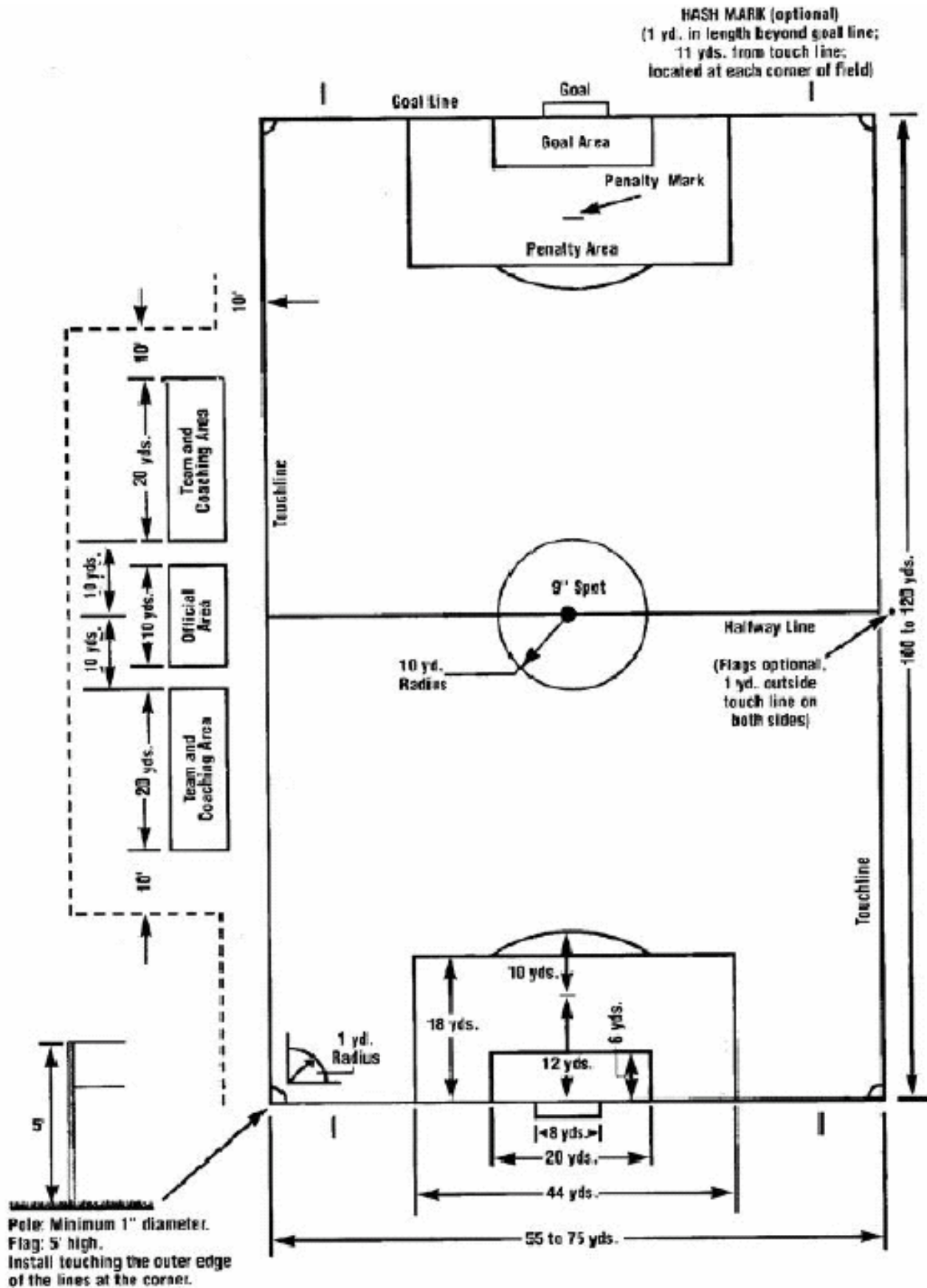
- **Soccer / Football Fields**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$60,000 - \$95,000
- Orientation Location: Length of the field North - South
- Field Area Coverage: 67,500 Sq. Ft. or .65 acres
- Total Facility Area Needs: 93,000 Sq. Ft. or 2 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 12 -16 hours during season (26 weeks)
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$11,000 - \$14,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .03 - .05
- Specifications: Regulation soccer/football field with basic drainage and irrigation, appropriate turf, portable score board, and combination all weather soccer/football goals.

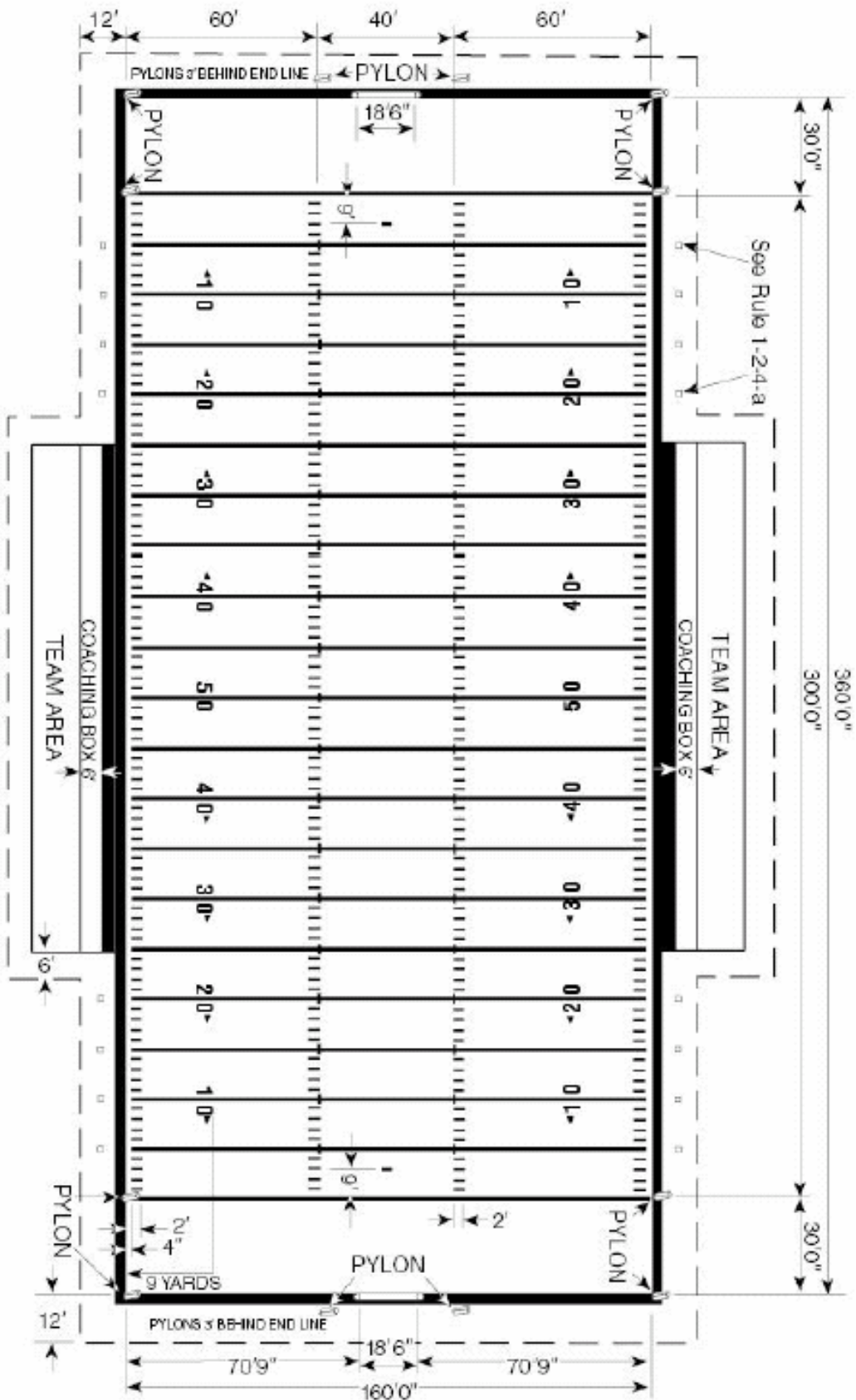
Soccer/football fields are less expensive to develop than baseball/softball fields primarily because the only requirements are generally a large level playing surface covered with adequate turf. The fields are interchangeable as lines can be painted on the fields and a full size football field will fit inside a full size soccer field. Combination (football/soccer) goals are advised for dual purpose fields. To minimize maintenance comprehensive irrigation systems are recommended, while these systems do add considerably to the overall cost. Because soccer/football fields do not have particularly specialized playing surfaces they can be overlapped with baseball outfields maximizing usable space and flexibility but compromising the ability to have two sports played simultaneously.

<b>Example Field</b>	
Field Turf	\$23,500
Irrigation	\$13,000
Drainage	\$21,000
Lights	\$30,000
Goal - soccer / football	\$1600
Seating, Spectator 2 3 row 15' long	\$2000
Seating, Team 2 15' bench	\$800
Scoreboard (LED portable)	\$1000
Total	\$92,900

## Soccer Field



### College / Recreation Football Field

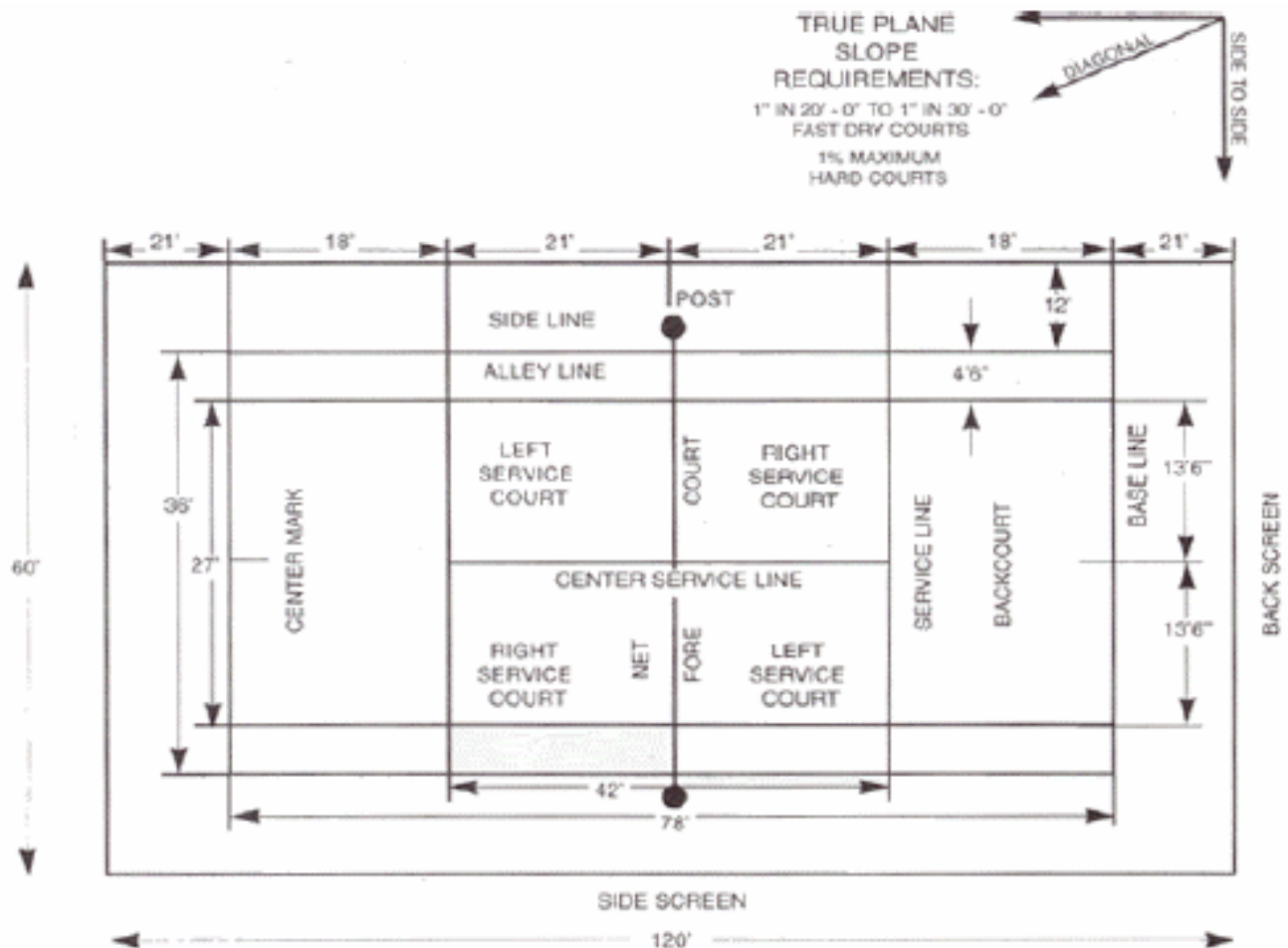


- **Tennis Courts**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$25,000 - \$55,000
- Orientation Location: East - West alignment of net
- Court Area Coverage: 2808 Sq. Ft.
- Total Facility Area Needs: 7200 Sq. Ft.
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 1 - 2 hours per court during season (26 weeks)
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$1,200 - \$1,400 per court
- Estimated Annual Maintenance FTE's: .03 - .05
- Specifications Summary: Regulation tennis court with 10 ft. fencing, netting, and drainage, court cushioning, and full lighting for night play.

<b>Example Court</b>	
Court (concrete)	\$28,800
Fencing (360' at 10 ft. height)	\$5760
Netting & Posts	\$500
Seating (2 - 15' bench)	\$800
Cushioning	\$10,000
Lighting	\$6000
Total	\$51,860

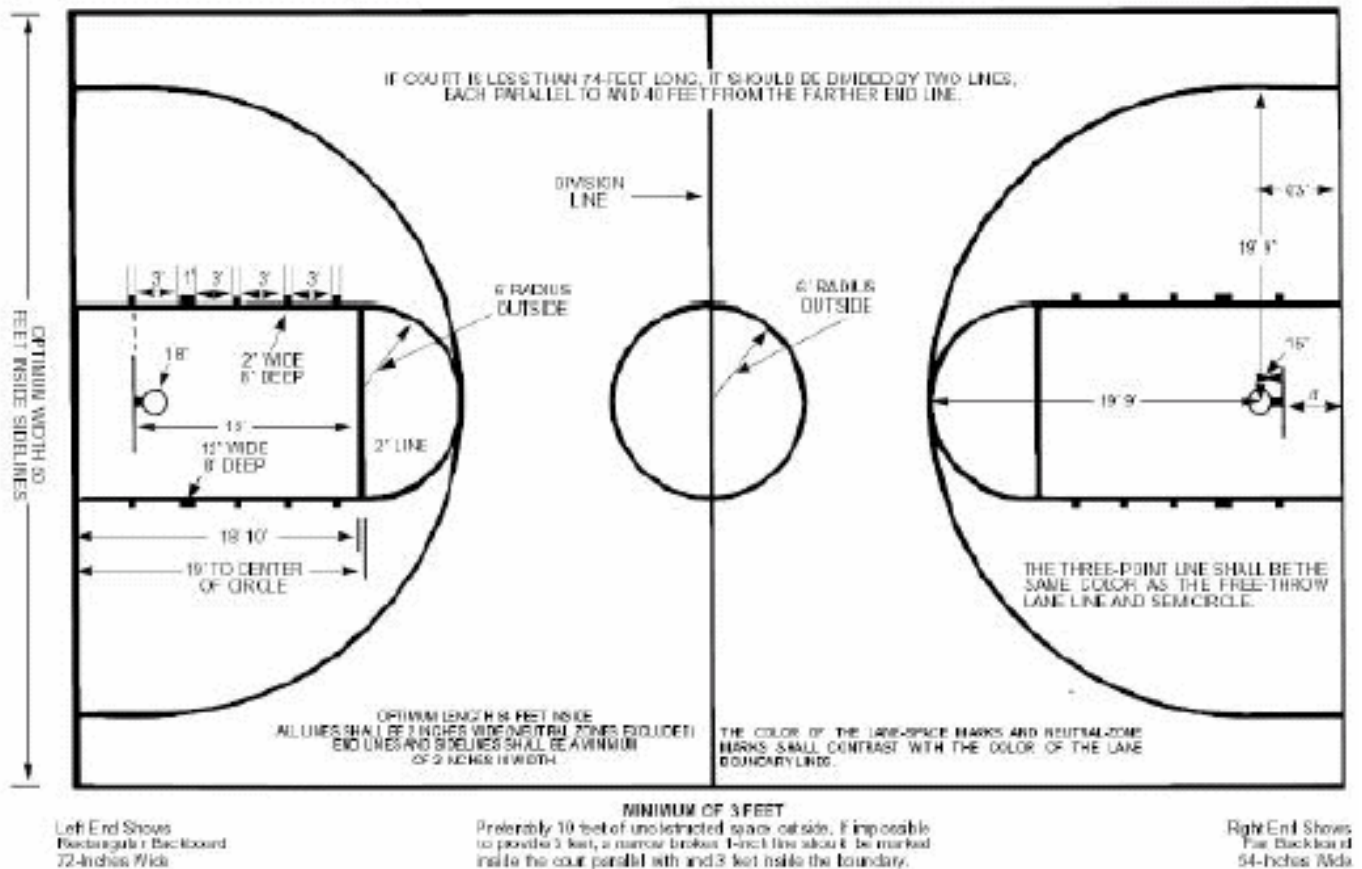
Tennis court costs may be reduced if the court is not cushioned. Cushioning provides a "slower" court surface increasing the ease of play for novices. Lighting may also be eliminated to reduce costs.



- **Basketball Courts**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$ 30,000 - \$ 45,000
- Orientation Location: Baskets at the North and South ends of court
- Court Area Coverage: 3700 Sq. Ft.
- Total Facility Area Needs: 6600 Sq. Ft.
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: .5 - 1 hour per court
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 900 - \$1,100
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .03 - .04
- Specifications Summary: College regulation sized basketball court, concrete with painted lines and 10 foot fencing with lighting optional.

Example Court		
Court		\$26,400
Fencing (10 ft. high)		\$5300
Seating (2 - 15' bench)		\$800
Lighting		\$6000
Backboards w/ post		\$1800
Total		\$40,300



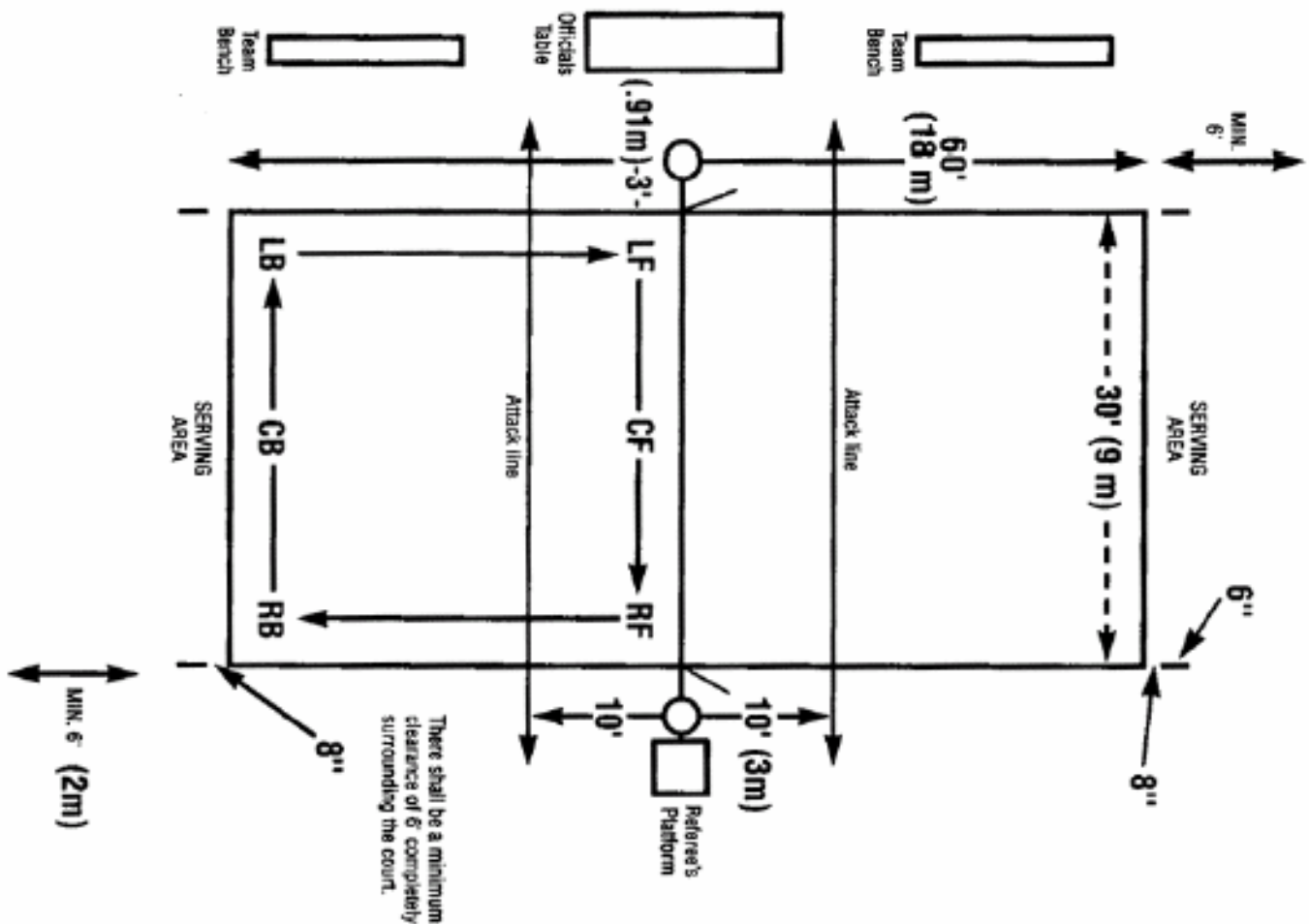
### • Volleyball Court (Sand)

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$ 6,000 to \$ 10,000
- Orientation Location: East - West alignment of net
- Court Area Coverage: 1800 Sq. Ft. or 0.08 acres
- Total Facility Area Needs: 4000 Sq. Ft. or 0.09 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: .5 - 1 hours per court
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 800 - \$1,100
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .03



- Specifications: Regulation sand beach style court with removable or permanent netting and standard gravel/sand drainage system. Court price does not include a piped drainage system which may or may not be necessary.

Example Court	
2 ft. deep sand (cu. yd.)	\$4440
1 ft. deep gravel (cu. yd.)	\$1480
Net & poles (standards)	\$400
Boundary Lines	\$50
Sand restraint boundary	
Total	\$6370



- **Skateboard Park**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$100,000 – \$150,000
- Orientation Location: N/A
- Facility Area Coverage: 7 – 17,000 Sq. Ft.
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 2 – 3 hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Cost: \$ 1,200 - \$1,600
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .04 - .05
- Specifications: Approximately 7 - 10,000 Sq. Ft. of facilities. Either with flat concrete pad and a modest variety of steel ramps, jumps, and rails, or concrete bowl design. Prices vary due to design.

- **BMX Racing Track**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$10,000 - \$25,000
- Orientation Location: Track alignment should minimize obstacle jumping
- Total Facility Area Needs: 130,700 Sq. Ft. or 3 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 10 - 12 hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 6,000 - \$ 8,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .2 - .3
- Specifications: American Bicycle Association accredited track with minimal fencing and regulation start gate.

<b>Example Track</b>	
Dirt - 3000 cu. yd.	\$9000
Equipment, small loader	\$3000
Fencing (500 ft.)	\$4000
Starting Gate	\$4000
Bleachers (2, 3 row - 15')	\$2000
Scoring platform / tower	\$3000
PA system	\$300
Total	\$25,300

BMX tracks are relatively in-expensive facilities because track design can be acquired free of charge from the American Bicycle Association, moreover construction primarily involves the movement of dirt, which, depending on circumstances may be available on site free of charge. Maintenance requires considerable raking and shoveling but is often accomplished by volunteers.

- **Playground**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$ 20,000 - \$ 30,000
- Orientation Location: Away from roadways and separated by age groups
- Facility Area Coverage: 3200 Sq. Ft.
- Total Facility Area Needs: 4900 Sq. Ft. or .1 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 2 - 3 Hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 1,400 - \$ 1,800
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .04 - .05
- Specifications: Modular play system with swings with a single light, and drinking fountain. Does not include any under playground surfacing other than grass.

- **Trails (paved)**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$32,000 per linear 1000' feet at 8' width
- Orientation Location: N/A
- Facility Area Coverage: 1000
- Total Facility Area Needs: 1000 linear ft or 10,000 Sq. Ft. for each 1000 linear ft.
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 1 - 3 Hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 6,000 - \$ 8,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .2 - .3
- Specifications: 8' concrete trail with easement, price does not include signage, grade separations or other special construction, it only reflects 4" slab costing at \$4 per Sq. Ft.

- **Trails (dirt)**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$ 4,000 - \$ 6,000 per mile
- Orientation Location: N/A
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 1 - 2 hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 400 - \$ 1,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .2 - .3
- Specifications: 2-3' wide trail for hiking (no equestrian) use

- **Swimming Pool**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$100,000 - \$ 200,000
- Orientation Location: N/A
- Facility Area Coverage: 3600 Sq. Ft. (pool only)
- Total Facility Area Needs: 12,400 or .14 acres
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 30 – 40 hours
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$ 16,000 - \$ 21,000

- Estimated Annual FTE's: .4 - .6
- Specifications: for approximately a 60 x 60 pool with twice as much surrounding decking as pool area.

General guidelines for swimming pool construction suggest:

- That 60-70% of the pool be 1-4 feet deep
- 20-30% be 5-6 feet deep
- 10-15 percent diving area
- deck area at least twice as much as the surface area of the pool
- Pool should have full security fencing and controlled access points

- **General Park**

- Estimated Construction Cost Range: \$ 50,000 - \$ 70,000 per acre
- Orientation Location: N/A
- Facility Area Coverage: 43,560 Sq. Ft. or 1 acre
- Estimated Weekly Maintenance: 17 – 21 Hours per acre in season
- Estimated Annual Maintenance Costs: \$18,000 - \$ 22,000
- Estimated Annual FTE's: .2 - .3
- Specifications: Open, actively landscaped (planter boxes, decorative trees and shrubs) parkland (1 acre) with irrigation system, single light, with 3 trash cans, 5 park benches, 10 picnic tables, 10 stationary barbecue units, bike rack, restroom, and drinking fountain. Does not include on-site parking costs.

Other Information and Tips:

- Generally 1 garbage can should be placed within 150 feet of every 4 picnic tables and should be emptied regularly with additional pickup during scheduled park events.
- It is best to place picnic tables within 400 feet of a parking lot
- Picnic table spacing should be at least 40 feet apart
- If a drinking fountain will be located on site it should be within 150 feet of the picnic tables
- Irrigate parkland with raw water

## **SECTION VI**

### **RECREATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

Relationship between Public and Private Programs	45
Recreation Program and Service Providers	45
Deficiencies in Existing Recreation Programs	47
Summary of Program and Service Issues	47

#### **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROGRAMS**

Currently, the City of Liberty Lake coordinates most recreation program planning with the private sector. Several teams and committees exist within the community that organize various sports leagues, classes, and leisure activities. Additionally, the Friends of Pavillion Park, beginning in 2005 will sponsor various recreational activities for the community. The City of Liberty Lake manages the golf programs at Trailhead Golf Course and Spokane County coordinates golf programs at their Meadowwood and Liberty Lake Golf Courses.

#### **RECREATION PROGRAM AND SERVICE PROVIDERS**

In addition to the many acres of parks and trails available in the Liberty Lake area, there are also many activities and facilities available within 10 minutes of Liberty Lake. The following chart represents some of the many recreation and leisure service providers within 10 minutes of Liberty Lake. Contact the City Planning & Community Development Dept. at 755-6707 to receive or provide updated chart info.

<b>Sports Teams &amp; Facilities</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact Name / Address</b>	<b>Contact Number / Email / Website</b>
AAU Basketball	6th Grade Team	Shelly Christensen	509-255-6148
Liberty Lake Athletic Club	Community Fitness Center	23410 E. Mission Ave.	509-891-2582 www.libertylakeathleticclub.com
Liberty Lake Co-Ed Softball	Co-Ed Softball League	Register for Summer	jengar@ccser.com
Liberty Lake Golf Course	18 Hole Golf Course	24403 E. Sprague	509-255-6233
Liberty Lake Lightning	Pony Baseball	Ken Busch	509-255-6060
Liberty Lake ORV Park	350 Acres of ATV & Motorcycle Open Riding Land	Spokane County Parks 404 North Havana Spokane, WA	509-477-4730 www.spokanecounty.org
Meadowwood Golf Course	18 Hole Golf Course	24501 E. Valleyway Ave.	509-255-9539
Spokane Valley Baseball	Ages 4-8	Mike Asan	509-922-0420
Spokane Valley Jr. Soccer	Soccer	Tammie Doyle	509-927-9989



Spokane Valley Soccer Camps	Ages 5-11	Brandon Deyarmin	509-710-8770
Sports USA	Various Activities & Classes	19619 E. Cataldo Spokane Valley	509-232-2822 www.sports-usa.org
Trailhead at Liberty Lake	Adult & Youth Lessons, Clubs - Executive 9-Hole Golf Course	City of Liberty Lake Mollie Thola, Golf Pro 1102 N Liberty Lake Rd.	509-928-3484 www.libertylakewa.gov/ trailhead_golf_course.asp
Valley Girl Triathlon/ Valley Kids Triathlon Dirty Tri Off-Road Sprint	Women Only Sprint Triathlon Kids of All Ages 12 Years + County Park Sprint	Emde Sports, LLC	509-953-9924
Walk 'n' Roll Fun Run	Fun Run	Jodi Tai Riggin	509-927-9135
YMCA of the Inland Northwest: Spokane Valley	Various Activities & Classes	2421 N Discovery Pl, Spokane Valley	509-777-9622 www.ymca.net
<b>Arts &amp; Crafts / Reading</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact Name / Address</b>	<b>Contact Number / Email / Website</b>
The Art Chalet	Art Classes - All Ages	Annette Carter 23106 E. Melkapsi Drive	509-255-9600 www.theartchalet.com/
Liberty Lake Municipal Library	Children's Reading Programs & Various Activities	Pamela Mogen, Director 1421 N Meadowwood Ln. Suite #130	509-232-2510 www.libertylakewa.gov/ municipal_library.asp
Michael's, The Arts & Crafts Store	Craft & Hobby Classes	15521 E. Broadway, Spokane Valley	509-893-0543 www.michaels.com
<b>Other Clubs / Hobbies / Facilities</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact Name / Address</b>	<b>Contact Number / Email / Website</b>
Boy Scouts of America	Youth Programs	Inland NW Council	www.inwc-bsa.org/
Girl Scouts of the USA	Youth Programs	Inland Empire Council	509-747-8091 http://www.gsiec.org
Guardian Angel Homes	Various Activities	23102 E. Mission Ave.	509-893-9300
Mothers of Preschoolers	Activities for Moms & Pre-schoolers	Jen Emerson	509-922-5065
Spokane Bicycle Club	Group Cycling	President Jon Rascoff	www.spokanebicyclingclub.org
Spokane Dog Training Club	Training, Agility, Volunteering		www.spokanedtc.org
Washington Car Clubs	List of WA Automobile Clubs		www.nwautoscene.com/waclubs.htm

## **DEFICIENCIES IN EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS**

---

During the initial public participation process for the creating this plan, four workshops were held from January 2005 to April 2005. Surveys were also available during this time to help the City gather input on existing and future parks, recreation, open space, and trail needs. The following is a brief summary of survey responses concerning recreation programs and events.

As you think about Liberty Lake Parks, Trails and Open Space, what issues or concerns would you list?

- Involve homeowner associations, Friends of Pavillion Park, & other groups w/ the City to work together
- More concerts, less movies – could have a membership ticket to offset expenses like [the] Sandpoint Festival
- Movies that are “R” rated should not be shown on the park movie nights – no way to monitor ages.
- Senior Center. Activities similar to the Corbin Art Center. A meeting place and activities (art classes, yoga, dance, seminars) for the Seniors. It would be easier and less driving for seniors to attend functions closer to home rather than driving into the valley or downtown.

## **SUMMARY OF PROGRAM AND SERVICE ISSUES**

---

While coordinating with the private sector for recreation programs and services is currently working for the Liberty Lake Community, the City, in the future, may have to re-address provision of recreation programs. As the community grows and community needs change, additional programs and services may need to be provided. Construction of a future city community center (youth, teen, senior center) may necessitate the City providing additional programs.

## **SECTION VII**

### **PARK & FACILITY NEEDS**

Introduction	48
Summary of Facility Needs	49
Park Land Needs	55

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Facility Standards developed for this plan are based on the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) "Recreation, Park, and Open Space Standards and Guidelines". Utilizing standards allows the planning process to set a benchmark of desired facilities for a specific population. The Facility Standards Table below shows standards in terms of park acreage and the quantity of a specific facility or amenity needed to serve a given number of persons. Facility Standards define the minimum number of recreation facilities necessary to accommodate the community needs for recreational activities. The table also shows approximate facility or amenity costs.

The standards will be used as a tool to assist in determining current and future community-wide recreation needs.

<b>Liberty Lake Park Facility Categories</b>	<b>Acreage Development Standards *</b>	<b>NRPA Standards for Public Facilities in a 10,500 Person Community</b>	
<b>Existing City Park Level of Service</b>	<b>80 acres per 1000 (min. LOS 30 acres per 1000)</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Amphitheater	4.00	1	5,000
Baseball / Softball Fields	3.25	1	5,000
Community Building	0.60	1	10,000
Fishing Facility / Access	8.00	1	20,000
Football Fields	2.00	1	5,000
Gymnasium	5.00	1	10,000
Horseshoe Pits	0.05	1	5,000
Maintenance Building	0.25	1	10,000
Multi-Use Trails (in miles)	N/A	1	3,000
Nature / Historic Sites	0.25	1	5,000
Outdoor Basketball Courts	0.25	1	5,000
Picnic Shelter Area	0.20	1	2,000
Playgrounds	0.20	1	2,000
Pond / River / Wetland (in acres)	1.25	1	5,000
Restroom Facility	0.25	1	20 acres
Skate Park	0.20	1	10,000
Soccer Fields	2.50	1	4,000

Swimming Pool (Indoor)	5.00	1	20,000
Swimming Pool (Outdoor)	3.00	1	10,000
Tennis Courts	0.25	1	2,000
Volleyball	0.20	1	5,000
Wooded / Green Space (in acres)	1.25	1	1,000

*\* Acreage Development Standards include square footage for the facility, user parking, and infrastructure/ support amenities. Does not include multi-use trails that are calculated based on miles.*

## **SUMMARY OF FACILITY NEEDS**

The following chart represents a comparison of existing facilities to the NRPA standard for a 10,500 person community. As of April 1, 2005, the official City population was 5,255. With hundreds of acres of park, recreation, and open space land (excluding the 3 golf courses within the City), plus the extensive community trail system, the City's existing Level of Service (LOS) of 80 acres per 1000 people exceeds the NRPA standard of 5.4 per 1000. The City's minimum LOS of 30 acres per 1000 will continue to exceed the NRPA standard overall.

<b>Liberty Lake Park Facility Categories</b>	<b>Existing Quantity</b>	<b>2005 City Population</b>	<b>NRPA Standards for Public Facilities in a 10,500 Person Community</b>		<b>Comparison of Existing Facility Quantities to NRPA Standards</b>
Amphitheater	1	5255	1	5,000	Meets standard, an additional amphitheater would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to continue to meet standard
Baseball / Softball Fields	3 Practice Fields	5255	1	5,000	Number of practice fields currently exceeds standard for baseball / softball fields and additional fields would not be required until after the City reaches 15,000, however existing field quality does not meet definition for a Class A or Class B field and is not game quality
Community Building	0	5255	1	10,000	NRPA standard is currently N/A, a community building would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to meet standard
Fishing Facility / Access	3	5255	1	20,000	Exceeds standard, additional access would not be required within 20 years
Football Fields	see Soccer Fields	5255	1	5,000	see Soccer Fields
Gymnasium	1	5255	1	10,000	Exceeds standard, an additional gymnasium would not be required until after the City reaches 10,000 to continue to exceed standard
Horseshoe Pits	2	5255	1	5,000	Exceeds standard, an additional pit would not be required until after the City reaches 10,000 to continue to exceed standard

Maintenance Building	0	5255	1	10,000	NRPA standard is currently N/A, a maintenance building would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to meet standard
Multi-Use Trails (in miles)	25.15	5255	1	3,000	Exceeds standard, additional trails would not be required within 20 years
Nature / Historic Sites	3	5255	1	5,000	Exceeds standard, an additional site would not be required until after the City reaches 15,000 to continue to exceed standard
Outdoor Basketball Courts	3 full courts (2 multi-use), 7 half courts, & 1 mini-court	5255	1	5,000	Exceeds standard, an additional court would not be required within 20 years
Picnic Shelter Area	1	5255	1	2,000	<b>Does not meet standard, 2 additional shelters would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 6,000 to meet standard</b>
Playgrounds	5 (1 w/ water toys)	5255	1	2,000	Exceeds standard, an additional playground would not be required until after the City reaches 10,000 to continue to exceed standard
Pond / River / Wetland (in acres)	N/A	5255	1	5,000	Exceeds standard, the City is adjacent to the Spokane River and Liberty Lake
Restroom Facility	1	5255	1	20 acres	Future park & recreation facilities will need additional restrooms
Skate Park	0	5255	1	10,000	NRPA standard is currently N/A, a skate park would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to meet standard
Soccer Fields	2 (multi-use)	5255	1	4,000	Multi-use fields currently meet standard, an additional soccer field would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 8,000 to continue to meet standard
Swimming Pool (Indoor)	2	5255	1	20,000	Exceeds standard, an additional indoor pool would not be required within 20 years
Swimming Pool (Outdoor)	0	5255	1	10,000	NRPA standard is currently N/A, an outdoor pool would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to meet standard
Tennis Courts	2	5255	1	2,000	Meets standard, an additional court would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 6,000 to continue to meet standard
Volleyball	1	5255	1	5,000	Meets standard, an additional court would need to be constructed prior to the City reaching 10,000 to continue to meet standard



Wooded / Green Space (in acres)	N/A	5255	1	1,000	Exceeds standard, the City has an extensive trail system, 3 golf courses within the City limits, and acres of common open space within our neighborhoods
---------------------------------	-----	------	---	-------	--

The following matrix offers a comparison of community needs and desires based on the approximate age groups they benefit. Approximate age groups are defined into Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, and Ages 65+ .

<b>Park Facility Categories</b>	<b>Approx. Age Group Receiving Direct Benefit</b>	<b>Liberty Lake Citizen Comments Review</b>	<b>Population When Facility Required - Based on NRPA Standards</b>
Amphitheater	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		10,000
Baseball / Softball Fields	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, & Ages 45 - 64	Need game quality fields for softball / little league, existing public fields are practice quality only	15,000 *
Community Building	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		10,000
Fishing Facility / Access	Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Additional lake access (walkable from City / Pavillion Park)	n/a
Football Fields	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, & Ages 45 - 64		

Gymnasium	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		10,000
Horseshoe Pits	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		10,000
Maintenance Building	n/a		10,000
Multi-Use Trails (in miles)	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Trails to connect City to lake and around to County Park	n/a
Nature / Historic Sites	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Community garden in a park-like setting, wildlife viewing area	15,000
Outdoor Basketball Courts	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, & Ages 45 - 64		n/a
Picnic Shelter Area	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		6,000

Playgrounds	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, & Ages 10 - 14	Swings for various ages (baby, child, etc.) & more play equipment	10,000
Pond / River / Wetland (in acres)	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	River & lake access (walkable from City)	n/a
Restroom Facility	n/a		Needed for every 20 acres of park facilities
Skate Park	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, & Ages 20 - 24		10,000
Soccer Fields	Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Increased soccer opportunities with more fields for games	8,000
Swimming Pool (Indoor)	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Neighborhood pool, in-ground pool, wading pool desired	n/a
Swimming Pool (Outdoor)	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Neighborhood pool, in-ground pool, wading pool desired	10,000
Tennis Courts	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, & Ages 45 - 64	More tennis courts / facilities	6,000

Volleyball	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, & Ages 45 - 64		10,000
Wooded / Green Space (in acres)	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Increased open space	n/a
	Ages 1 - 2, Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Parks w/ different themes / uses, Parks N. of I-90	Not included in NRPA Standards
	Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Increased public art	Not included in NRPA Standards
	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Pedestrian bridge over I-90 at the eastern end of the City	Not included in NRPA Standards
	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Mini-golf, putting course, or frisbee golf course	Not included in NRPA Standards
	Ages 3 - 4, Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19,	Low or no cost opportunities for winter ice skating, etc.	Not included in NRPA Standards

	Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+		
	Ages 5 - 9, Ages 10 - 14, Ages 15 - 19, Ages 20 - 24, Ages 25 - 44, Ages 45 - 64, & Ages 65+	Pedestrian friendly town center	Not included in NRPA Standards

\* See Page 46 - Park and Facility Needs - Summary of Facility Needs for further explanation

## **PARK LAND NEEDS**

The only immediate deficiency in the City, according to NRPA standards, is a lack of picnic shelter. One additional shelter would be needed immediately to meet NRPA standards and a second additional shelter would be needed by the time the City reaches a 6,000 population, probably by 2007. One additional shelter may be able to be accommodated at Pavillion Park, however a second additional shelter will need to be constructed elsewhere. Another item the City should address is the provision of Class A or Class B, game quality Baseball / Softball Fields for adult and little league play. Currently there are three, practice quality fields within the City, two at Liberty Lake Elementary, and one at Pavillion Park. Some adult and little league games are currently being held at the privately owned Sports World fields, however it is anticipated that these fields will be removed or no longer available after the 2005 season. The following items will need to be constructed within the next 20 years on existing donated land at Rocky Hill Park or land may need to be purchased in order for the City to continue meeting or exceeding NRPA standards. The items are organized by population:

<b>Current - 7,999</b>	<b>8,000 - 9,999</b>	<b>10,000 - 14,999</b>	<b>15,000 -19,999</b>	<b>20,000</b>
Baseball / Softball Field (Class A or Class B)	Picnic Shelter Area	Amphitheater	Amphitheater	Amphitheater
2 Picnic Shelter Areas	Restroom Facilities	Baseball / Softball Field (Class A or Class B)	Baseball / Softball Field (Class A or Class B)	Baseball / Softball Field (Class A or Class B)
Restroom Facilities	Soccer Field	Community Building	Football Field	Community Building
Tennis Court	Tennis Court	Football Field	Horseshoe Pit	Football Field
		Gymnasium	Nature / Historic Site	Gymnasium
		Horseshoe Pit	2 Picnic Shelter Areas	Horseshoe Pit
		Maintenance Building	2 Playgrounds	Maintenance Building
		3 Picnic Shelter Areas	Restroom Facilities	Nature / Historic Site
		3 Playgrounds	Soccer Field	Picnic Shelter Area
		Restroom Facilities	2 Tennis Courts	Playground
		Skate Park	Volleyball	Restroom Facilities
		Soccer Field		Skate Park
		Swimming Pool (Outdoor)		Soccer Field

		3 Tennis Courts		Swimming Pool (Outdoor)
		Volleyball		Tennis Court
				Volleyball

## **SECTION VIII**

### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Introduction	57
Goals and Objectives	57

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Liberty Lake Comprehensive Plan outlined an overall vision for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, and created goals and objectives to achieve the vision. The following is the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element Vision Statements:

1. Additional parks, possibly one by the Spokane River
2. Additional trees and preserved natural beauty
3. Expansion of the current pedestrian friendly trail system
4. Inclusion of golf courses and other recreational opportunities within the City
5. City community center
6. Additional community access to Liberty Lake

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The following are the Goals and Objectives established for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space in the City's Comprehensive Plan:

##### **General Goals and Policies**

The residents of the City of Liberty Lake and surrounding communities value the long-term benefits of parks and recreation. It is important to retain the connection with the outdoors, provide for passive and active recreational activities, and avoid the visual monotony of crowded and undifferentiated structures. These general goals will be fulfilled by encouraging the development of, maintaining, and/or preserving a network of parks, trails, and open space.

##### **Goal**

**P.1: Ensure the availability of a variety of parks, recreation facilities and services, and open space to benefit a wide range of age, social, economic, and special group interests and abilities.**

##### **Policies**

P.1.1: Develop, maintain, and utilize a detailed Liberty Lake Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. The plan should be updated at least every 5 years or sooner if conditions alter the effectiveness of the existing plan and shall:

1. Identify existing parks, trails, open space, and recreational facilities;
2. Identify the need for future parks, trails, open space, and recreational facilities and where they may be located;
3. Identify and prioritize strategies to meet level of service standards identified in the Comprehensive Plan;
4. Identify funding sources necessary to meet the level of service standard and maintain public parks, trails, open space, and recreational facilities and services;



5. Ascertain the economic feasibility of all new public parks, trails, open space, and recreational facilities.

P.1.2: Development of new parks, recreation, and open space facilities, whether public or private, shall be consistent with the City of Liberty Lake's Comprehensive Plan and the Parks Plan or other plans as adopted.

P.1.3: Park and recreation facilities should serve the widest possible cross-section of citizen needs and interests, including handicap accessibility where possible.

P.1.4: Parks, recreation, and open space facilities should be located where they will provide for a variety of activities, as well as where they will best preserve, enhance, and protect important habitat areas, corridors and linkages, natural amenities (e.g., wetlands and shorelines), unique landscape features (e.g., cliffs and bluffs), or other outstanding natural features.

P.1.5: Allocate parks, recreation, and open space facilities throughout the City in a manner that provides an equitable geographic distribution based on population density.

P.1.6: Respond to the diversity of public needs by offering a range of recreational opportunities from passive to active, and from unstructured activity to organized recreation.

P.1.7: Involve the public and other agencies with expertise in the decision making process regarding parks, recreation, and open space facilities and programs.

P.1.8: Ensure the public has access to any lake, stream, or river that may fall within the City, within the carrying-capacity limits of the water resources and adjacent natural systems.

## **Goal**

**P.2: Develop, or encourage the development of, parks and recreation facilities to meet the needs of the public.**

### **Policies**

P.2.1: Coordinate and cooperate with both public and private sector interests to further park and recreational opportunities.

P.2.2: Work with nonprofit and for-profit recreation providers to enhance the quality and quantity of available recreation facilities at the lowest possible expense to the taxpayer.

## **Level of Service for Parks, Trails, Open Space, and Recreational Facilities**

**Purpose:** The residents of the City of Liberty Lake and surrounding communities desire to preserve the variety and convenience of the recreational opportunities, as well as the uncluttered and aesthetically pleasing atmosphere of their communities made possible by the variety and abundance of open space, trails, and the parks, both public and private, within the City of Liberty Lake. In order to ensure that future residents enjoy the same benefits of abundant parks, recreation, and open space, a minimum level of service should be maintained.

## **Goal**

**P.3: Set a minimum level of service for parks, trails, and open space of 30 acres per 1000 population, inclusive of golf courses, natural areas, school play areas, and other outdoor recreational areas.**

### **Policies**

P.3.1: Offer neighborhoods within the City the ability to increase park and recreation opportunities through privately owned neighborhood parks.

P.3.2: New development shall mitigate all of its direct impacts of development on public parks, recreation, and open space facilities by dedicating land in the form of parks, trails, or other open space, inclusive of golf courses, natural areas, school play areas, and other outdoor recreational areas.

P.3.3: Parks, trails, and other open spaces designed to mitigate development impacts shall be within maximum specified distances from all locations within the development.

P.3.4: City owned recreation facilities should be designed and operated to recover operating costs. Any adopted fee structure policies should be based on the cost of providing service.

P.3.5: Encourage innovative strategies and incentives (e.g., adopt-a-park, adopt-a-trail, adopt-a-space) to enhance existing programs for park maintenance, safety, and accessibility.

## **Park Maintenance and Design**

**Purpose:** It is important that the City maintain existing parks, recreation, and open space to ensure safety, security, and cleanliness. Well-designed parks and connecting trails will contribute to the aesthetic qualities of the City as well as the welfare, safety, and security of its citizens.

## **Goal**

**P.4: Continue to provide a parks and trail system that is well maintained and effectively managed to meet both current and future needs.**

## **Policies**

P.4.1: Maintenance of existing parks, recreation, and open space facilities shall take precedence over acquisition of new facilities.

P.4.2: Design standards for parks, recreation, and open space should ensure safety, security, cleanliness, accessibility and ease of maintenance.

P.4.3: Best management practices should be utilized in the design of city parks, recreation, and open space facilities.

P.4.4: Parks, recreation, and open space should be designed and located to provide ease of access for pedestrians, handicapped persons, bicycles, autos, and public transit.

P.4.5: To the greatest extent possible, retain the natural features of proposed parks and recreation areas. Encourage designs that incorporate the use of native plants and grasses.

P.4.6: Ensure safe trails and/or bike lanes are developed along new arterials.

## **Open Space Goals and Policies**

Open space contributes directly and indirectly to the economic value of nearby property and to the economic value of the community by enhancing its attractiveness to existing and prospective individual and commercial residents. Open space includes trails, meadows, golf courses, public and non-public parks, and recreational playing fields associated with schools. The purpose of this section is to provide a policy framework to preserve the open space areas that function as a system of corridors so that opportunities for recreation, trails, wildlife habitat, and connection of critical areas are maintained.

## **Purpose**

To preserve and create viable natural habitat and trail corridors integrated with and whenever possible, connected to, a well-distributed system of neighborhood, community and regional parks designed to enhance the quality of life by providing recreational opportunity, preserving open space, and protecting important elements of Liberty Lake's great natural heritage for future generations.

## **Goal**

**P.5: Preserve and protect existing and designated open space areas and corridors throughout the City to maintain a physical and functional system of open space corridors which protect environmental resources, enhance visual aesthetics, provide circulation linkages, and ensure adequate separation and buffers between various land uses.**

## **Policies**

P.5.1: Monitor change in open space quantity and quality to evaluate the cumulative impacts on the existing system of open space over time, and take the necessary steps to ensure open space is protected.

P.5.2: Encourage private efforts to acquire property and/or secure easements or development rights for open space, wildlife habitat, and recreation.

P.5.3: Develop revenue sources for the funding of open space. Funding sources may include, but are not limited to, impact fees.

P.5.4: Where appropriate, conserve existing public lands in a natural state through careful planning and cooperative agreements between government agencies and public and private groups.

P.5.5: Through planning, open space corridors shall be established as appropriate to serve as greenbelt buffers, trails, wildlife habitat, and recreation areas between and among developments.

P.5.6: Identify and designate open space areas and corridors throughout the City. These open spaces shall include lands useful for recreation, wildlife habitat, trails, and connection of critical areas.

P.5.7: The open space designations must be based on community needs and values over time, as population increases.

P.5.8: Public Open Space designations must be accompanied with funding, planning, and acquisition techniques that reasonably ensure the land will be available for open space methods of retention, such as the following:

1. Conservation Futures Tax
2. Conservation Easements
3. Land Trust
4. Transfer of Development Rights
5. Public Acquisition of property
6. Private acquisition
7. Donation
8. Planned Development/ Clustering
9. Dedication
10. Impact Fees
11. Golf Course Admissions Tax

P.5.9: Establish a public process consistent with the City of Liberty Lake's Parks Plan or other plans as adopted, for prioritizing future park and open space land acquisitions. The acquisition policy should be flexible enough to permit the capture of an unanticipated opportunity.

P.5.10: Solicit involvement by the general public, agencies, and individuals with expertise in open space land acquisition decisions.

P.5.11: Encourage the preservation of open space by nonprofit organizations and private individuals.

P.5.12: Encourage the retention of all publicly owned open space areas.

P.5.13: Respect private property rights while preserving open space corridors through regulatory means.

P.5.14: Implement the open space designation through zoning and other regulatory techniques such as residential clustering, critical area buffers, and wildlife management plans to provide an open space system and to preserve and protect environmentally sensitive areas.

P.5.15: Promote the inclusion of maintained open space within planned unit developments for residential, commercial, and industrial development.

P.5.16: Established view corridors throughout the City shall be maintained and, whenever possible, enhanced.

### **Trails Goals and Policies**

**Purpose:** The City of Liberty Lake's trail system is utilized for both recreational and transportation purposes. While the trail system is a significant component of the City's parks, recreational, and open space facilities, it is the backbone of the City's pedestrian and nonmotorized vehicle traffic plan and as such is fully addressed in the Transportation Element of this plan. To the extent that the trail system contributes to the recreational opportunities found in the City, it is addressed in this element as well.

### **Goals**

**P.6a: Create a system of multipurpose trails that meet present and projected recreational needs and connects with the regional system of such trails at multiple, convenient locations.**

**P.6b: Make the enhancement of the existing trail system plan a priority project.**

### **Policies**

P.6.1: Ensure trails are handicap accessible.

P.6.2: Prepare and maintain a recreational enhancements program for the trails plan. The trails plan should link population centers, community facilities, workplaces, neighborhoods, schools, recreation areas, open space, and cultural/ historical areas. Coordinate with other agencies and trails committee(s) to ensure a comprehensive approach to trail system planning.

P.6.3: Separate recreational trails from motorized vehicle traffic where feasible.

P.6.4: Inventory and examine existing rights-of-way (including abandoned rail and utility easements) for possible use as multipurpose non-motorized vehicle trails.

## **SECTION IX**

### **STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS LOCAL, STATE, & NATIONAL CONCERNS**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

---

The City of Liberty Lake can address concerns from the local, state, and national levels through coordinated public participation efforts and a thorough plan.

##### **Local Level**

- Seek involvement from residents and businesses in the creation and update of the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan.
- Conduct workshops to receive citizen feedback and enhance design ideas for specific parks, recreation, trails, and open space projects.
- Provide project updates and notices to citizens via the City newsletter and website, as well as the local newspaper, as applicable.
- Educate park users about adopted rules and regulations concerning alcohol use in the parks, animals within the parks, tobacco use in the parks, etc. through posting of park rules on site and on the City Website.

##### **State Level**

- Coordinate with the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation and the Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development in the creation and update of the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan.

##### **National Level**

- Design parks, recreation, trails, and open space to conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the guidelines established through the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board).

## **SECTION X**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Introduction	63
New Park, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Development	63
Park Rehabilitation	72
Management Recommendations	72
Program and Service Recommendations	72
Miscellaneous Recommendations	72

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In 2003, the City's Comprehensive Plan established a vision, goals, and objectives for parks, recreation, trails, and open space planning. The Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan will implement the Comprehensive Plan for parks planning and enhance our community vision. Public participation has been sought throughout the creation of this plan and continued public participation will be encouraged as the plan is amended and projects are developed.

Section VII above, outlines the City's Park and Facility Needs. The following are the immediate parks, recreation, open space, and trails needs based on NRPA standards and community input (also see the chart under Park Land Needs on [Page 55](#) for further needs based on City population).

##### Current Population - 7,999

- Baseball / Softball Field (Class A or Class B)
- 2 Picnic Shelter Areas
- Restroom Facilities
- Tennis Court

Additionally, the map and planning summary below contains recommendations for facility locations, needs, etc. formulated from the community input during the public participation process for this plan.

- Item A of the Planning Summary contains a background with Types of Park and Recreation Areas based on national guidelines.
- Items B -F of the Planning Summary contain recommendations for Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks, River & Trails, Open Spaces, and Sports Facilities.
- Additionally, the recommendations below address Park Rehabilitation, Park Management, Programs & Services, and Miscellaneous Recommendations for a Town Square, Open Space & Viewscape Protection, Spokane County Regional Park Passes & Recreation Program Discounts, Park Equipment & Design, and Winter Recreation.

#### **NEW PARK, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT**

Four public workshops were held from January 2005 to April 2005 to help expand the vision for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space that was established by the City Comprehensive Plan. The planning area was divided into four quadrants (see Appendix for Quadrant Map):

**NW Quad**

This area of the City is largely undeveloped and contains direct access to the Spokane River and Centennial Trail. It is likely that completion of the pedestrian overpass spanning I-90 will invite greater recreational use of the area.

**NE Quad**

This area of the City is largely undeveloped and adjacent to Liberty Lake's industrial use area. Unique land forms and historic structures are present.

**SW Quad**

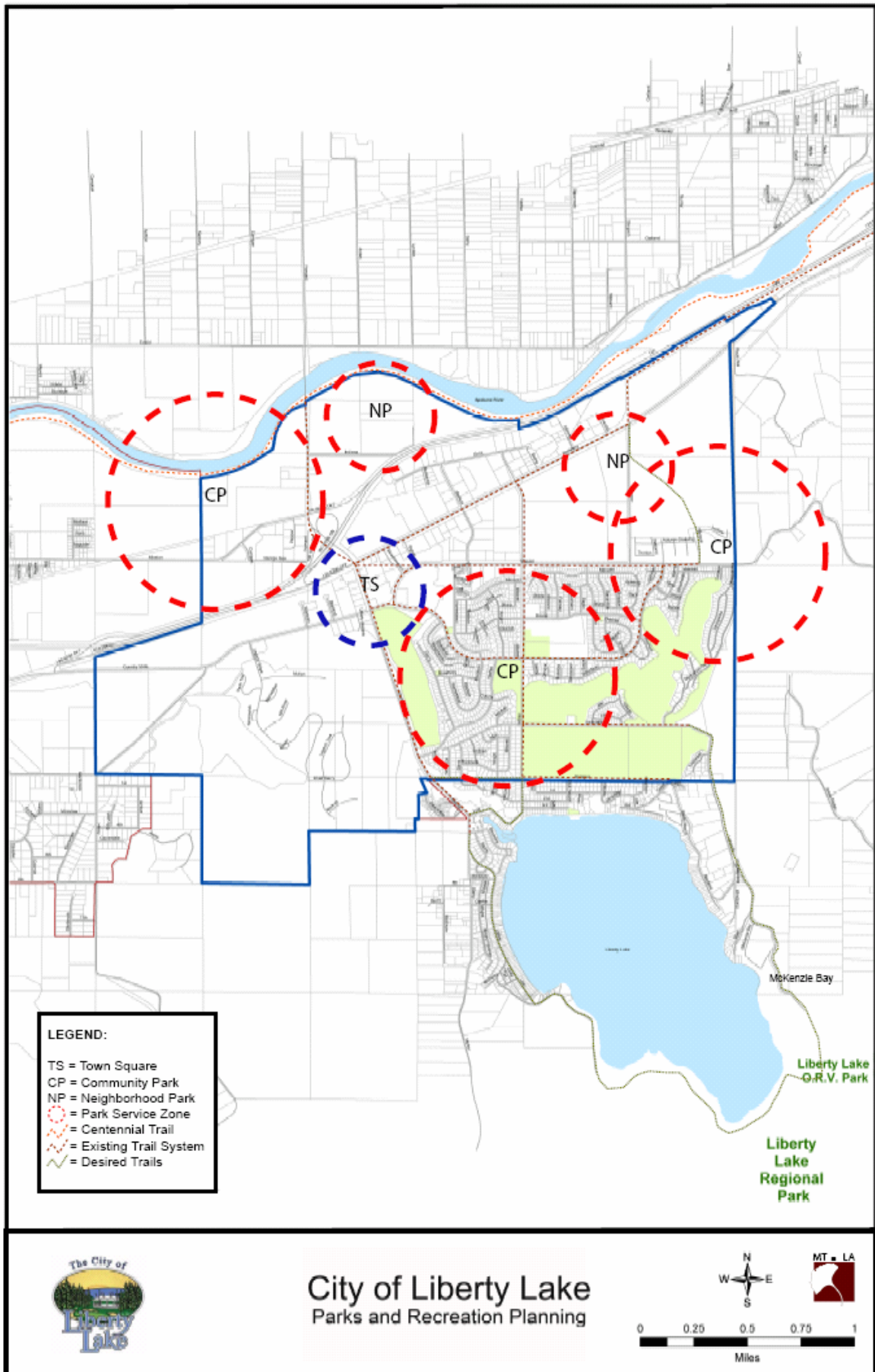
This area contains the primary entrances and commercial core of the City. Residential land use in this section is mostly made up of a developing, private community.

**SE Quad**

This area is largely built-out, but also generated the most public planning interest due to its proximity to the lake and Liberty Lake Regional Park; both of which are located outside the City boundary.

Although initially the planning area was divided into quadrants, it was determined that the ideas developed during the workshops could be utilized throughout the community. Results from the workshops matched the NRPA standards and the Comprehensive Plan very closely. The following map depicts existing and potential sites for new park development. The sites proposed are based on the areas that have little or no parks opportunities within the 250' - 750' radiuses of the existing parks shown on the map in **Section III, page 18** and the feedback gained from our public participation process for creation of this plan. The map depicts Community Parks (CP), Neighborhood Parks (NP), a Town Square (TS), existing trails, and desired trails.





## Planning Summary

### A. Types of Park and Recreation Areas (definition source: Mertes, James D, Ph.D. and James R. Hall, CLP. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Nat'l Recreation and Park Assn, 1996.)

#### 1. Neighborhood Park – 5-10 Acres

- a. The neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.
- b. The location criteria for a neighborhood park includes being centrally located within a service area of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile that is uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.
- c. Potential recreation facilities in a neighborhood park include:

##### Active – 50% of park acreage

- play structures
- court games
- non-programmed, or “informal” playfield or open space
- tennis courts
- volleyball courts
- shuffleboard courts
- horseshoe area
- wading pool

##### Passive

- internal trails
- picnic/sitting areas
- general open space
- “people watching” areas

#### 2. School-Park – Size is dependent on intended use.

- a. Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.
- b. Location is determined by site of school district property.

Note: The Central Valley School District has expressed an interest in exploring how development of the 20+ acres of undeveloped public property adjacent to Liberty Lake Elementary School, which is anticipated to be a future middle school, might contribute to the City's parks and recreation goals.

Typical school facilities such as baseball / softball ballfields, tennis courts, etc. could be available for public use through the school district during times when the school is not utilizing them.

#### 3. Community Park – 10-50 Acres

- a. Community parks serve a more broad purpose than a neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based, active and passive recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.
- b. A community park's location is determined by the quality and suitability of the site. It usually serves two or more neighborhoods within .5 – 3 miles.
- c. Potential recreation facilities in a community park include:

##### Active – distribution determined on a site-by-site basis

- large play structures and/or creative play attractions
- game courts

- non-programmed, or “informal” playfield or open space
- some programmed activity is compatible and acceptable
- tennis courts
- volleyball courts
- shuffleboard courts
- horseshoe areas
- wading pools
- swimming pools
- swimming beaches
- disc golf areas

Passive

- extensive internal trails
- individual and group picnic/sitting areas
- general open space and unique landscape features
- Nature study areas
- Ornamental gardens

d. Cultural Activities

- Plays
- Concerts
- Movies

4. Sports Complex

- A sports complex consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.
- Sports complexes should be strategically-located, community-wide facilities with reasonable and equal driving distances from the population served. It is recommended that the location be adjacent to non-residential land use.
- Potential facilities include:
  - ballfields
  - soccer fields
  - football fields
  - tennis courts
  - plays structures
  - hardcourts
  - volleyball courts

5. Natural Resource Areas – availability and opportunity determine size

- Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.
- The primary factors for preserving a natural resource area are availability and opportunity.
- Potential uses of natural resource areas

Passive

- Nature viewing and study
- Greenway - Tracts of land that effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.

## 6. Trails

- a. Park Trail - Park trails are multipurpose trails located within greenways, parks, and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational value and harmony with the natural environment.

### Type I

- Separate/single-purpose, hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters.

### Type II

- Multipurpose, hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters.

### Type III

- Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard- or soft- surfaced.

- b. Connector Trail - Multipurpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation.

### Type I

- Separate/single-purpose, hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters located in independent r.o.w. (e.g., old railroad r.o.w.).

### Type II

- Separate/single-purpose, hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, and in-line skaters. Typically located within road r.o.w.

## **B. Liberty Lake Community Parks**

1. A community park was identified for the NW portion of the City. Nearby sports fields are inside the area and an indoor sports facility exists to the west. Opportunity exists for internal trail connections to the Centennial Trail.
2. Rocky Hill Park is an identified future community park for the NE portion of the City. The park borders the eastern edge of town and is surrounded by residential property. Opportunity exists for internal trail connections to the Liberty Lake comprehensive trail system and preservation of unique landforms and historic structures.
3. In the SW portion of the City, it is likely that the private community of Legacy Ridge will develop and maintain its own community park. Opportunity exists for internal trail connections to the comprehensive Liberty Lake trail system.
4. Pavillion Park is a developed community park, located in the SE portion of the City. The park is centrally located and serves most of the City's current population. Internal trail connections to the comprehensive trail system exist and opportunities include updating the facility to better serve the growing population.
5. Community input was received regarding guidelines for community park development. Planning concepts for a community park include:
  - Implementation of appropriate site furniture for the designed park use
  - Including traditional and tot swings with other play equipment
  - Park design that accommodates community events that do not conflict with those at other community parks.
  - A tennis facility
  - An aquatic center with indoor and outdoor amenities
  - Preservation of native wildlife habitat areas incorporating weed control measures and a large, natural park preserving views and natural resources adjacent to the Liberty Lake Regional Park
  - Provision of historic information about the Liberty Lake community.
  - Encouraging private development to include community and/or neighborhood parks and trails

- Purchasing land outside the City to provide public access at the northern end of the lake with connectivity to the comprehensive trail system
6. Community parks should provide the appropriate recreational levels of service to the community. In addition to the guidelines developed in the public participation process, implementation of community parks should include:
    - Trail connections to the Liberty Lake trail system
    - Conservation of unique landscape elements
    - Opportunity for recreation opportunities unique to other community parks in the City
    - A budgeted, long-term maintenance and operational schedule
    - Multi-generational design concepts
    - Playground equipment
    - Restroom and changing facilities
    - Crime prevention design concepts
    - Lake and natural resource view preservation
    - A swim beach
    - Appropriate site furnishings
    - Adherence to ADA standards

### **C. Liberty Lake Neighborhood Parks**

1. A neighborhood park was identified for the NW portion of the City. Opportunity exists for internal trail connections to the Centennial Trail.
2. A neighborhood park was identified for NE portion of the City. Surrounded by residential property, a smaller park fits location parameters perfectly.
3. A neighborhood park was not identified for the SW portion of the City due to the area being largely occupied by the private, Legacy Ridge development with private mini-parks.
4. Mini-parks like Pump House Park and Little Bear Park were also identified as filling the neighborhood park niche in the SE portion of the City. Surrounded by residential property, these smaller parks fit location parameters perfectly. Opportunities for a new neighborhood park in this area would become available if new land becomes incorporated into the City boundary or existing land uses are converted.
5. Community input was received regarding guidelines for neighborhood park development. Planning concepts for a neighborhood park include:
  - Coordination of special events for nearby families
  - Organization of a community clean-up schedule and encouragement of a pet clean-up program
  - Looking toward the future
  - Encouragement of development requiring the inclusion of small, walkable parks throughout
  - Tennis/game court construction
  - Inclusion of traditional and tot swings with other play equipment
6. Neighborhood parks should provide the appropriate recreational levels of service to the community. In addition to the guidelines developed in the public participation process, implementation of neighborhood parks should include:
  - Trail connections to the Liberty Lake trail system
  - Opportunity for recreation opportunities that supplement those at other nearby parks
  - Playground equipment with traditional and toddler swings
  - A game court
  - A budgeted, long-term maintenance schedule
  - Multi-generational design concepts

- Complimentary facilities to nearby parks
  - Crime prevention design concepts
  - Public safety considerations
7. Pocket parks, smaller than 5 acres, may be used to meet the neighborhood park needs for Liberty Lake to ensure that everyone is located within a ½ mile of a park area. The existing public pocket parks (Little Bear, Five Fingers, and Pumphouse) were constructed as part of residential developments and are currently maintained by homeowners's associations. Future pocket parks should also have public access easements to guarantee continued public park access in close proximity to development, as well as maintenance agreements.

#### **D. River & Liberty Lake Trails**

1. The Spokane River and Centennial Trail are adjacent to the NW portion of the City. Opportunity exists to leverage their recreational value to the community.
  - Identification markers, placed along the Centennial Trail / Spokane River, could identify historical areas and city, county, and state lines for trail and river users.
2. The Spokane River and Centennial Trail are also adjacent to the NE portion of the City, yet I-90 creates a barrier to direct access. Access is available to Stateline Trail, which provides an indirect route, both east and west, to the river and regional trail system.
3. Additional trails were not identified for the SW portion of the City due to the area being largely occupied by the private, Legacy Ridge development with a private trail system.
4. With the lake and Liberty Lake Regional Park in proximity to the SE portion of the City, most public feedback surrounded incorporating them into the overall trail system. Opportunity exists here to enhance the connectivity of the overall system.
  - The following trails were proposed in the Liberty Lake Trail System Plan dated February 2000, and have not yet been constructed (refer to the Liberty Lake Trails Plan, Appendix A, for more information)
    - Sprague Ave. (Liberty Lake Rd. to Molter Rd.)
    - Inlet Drive (Liberty Lake Rd. to Molter Rd.)
    - West Side of Lake (Liberty Lake Rd to Liberty Creek Rd.)
    - Lakeside Trail (East side of lake)
    - Marsh Dike Walkway (elevated walkway over marsh with gravel path over hillside on west side, connecting Spokane County Park to Liberty Creek Rd.)
5. Community input was received regarding guidelines for river and trail development. Planning concepts include:
  - Providing informal river access - especially kayakers, rafters and inner-tubers
  - Trails accommodation of bicycles and rollerblades
  - Additional trails should accommodate a minimum of walking and jogging
  - Connectivity of additional trails to the comprehensive trail system and supporting connection of the comprehensive trail system around the lake to Liberty Lake Regional Park, linking two large portions of the comprehensive trails system together
  - Trails having independent rights-of-way
6. Trails should provide the appropriate recreational levels of service to the community. In addition to the guidelines developed in the public participation process, implementation of trails should include:
  - Connections to the comprehensive Liberty Lake parks and trail system
  - Encourage private landowners to allow public trail construction and possibly require access easements for public trail corridors within gated communities to allow for connections to the existing trail system or future trail and wildlife corridors
  - Independent r.o.w or consider shared r.o.w. in places to ensure overall trail system integrity
  - Connection to Stateline Trail

- A budgeted, long-term maintenance schedule
- Adherence to ADA standards
- Crime prevention design concepts

#### **E. Liberty Lake Open Space**

1. The area in the NW portion of the City is largely undeveloped and offers adjacency to the Spokane River. Opportunity and availability of open space for preservation exist throughout.
2. The area in the NE portion of the City is also largely undeveloped and offers adjacency to the Spokane River. Opportunity and availability of open space for preservation exist throughout.
3. The area in the SW portion of the City contains linear tracts of open space along roadways, an abandoned gravel pit area, and areas that are planned for private residential and commercial use. Opportunity and availability of open space for conservation are limited, but important to the overall trail system.
4. The area in the SE portion of the City contains very little undeveloped open space. Proximity to the natural resource areas of the lake and regional park makes this area a high priority in open space considerations.
5. Community input was received regarding guidelines for open space preservation. Planning concepts include:
  - Protection of the Spokane River from development encroachment while maintaining informal public access
  - Preserving and protecting Liberty Lake Regional Park from development encroachment
  - Obtaining McKenzie Bay properties for natural area and public lake access
  - Creation / development of a pedestrian-friendly civic/commercial area, central town square area with public art, creating a unique character for the City by visually enhancing the primary entries to Liberty Lake
  - Providing historic information on the Liberty Lake community
  - Conservation of land to tie parks and trail system together and with pedestrian-friendly urban areas (greenways)
6. Open space areas should be set aside to enhance the local quality of life. In addition to the guidelines developed in the public participation process, considerations for conservation include:
  - Creating an interconnected parks and trails system
  - Creating opportunities for independent trail r.o.w
  - A budgeted, long-term maintenance schedule
  - Encourage the establishment of an open space corridor along the north side of the Spokane River to provide preserved open space areas along both sides of the river
  - Habitat protection and enhancement
  - Public safety and fire protection considerations
  - Historic/Interpretive information

#### **F. Liberty Lake Sports Facilities**

1. The area in the NW portion of the City currently contains sports fields at Sports World and is nearest to the indoor facilities at Sports USA, however the sports fields at Sports World are privately owned and due to the bankruptcy of Sports World, demolition is anticipated. Future city annexation is expected to include the Sports USA site.
2. Sports Facilities were not identified for the NW or SW portions of the City
3. The area in the SE portion of the City contains undeveloped school district property. Considering its central location, the site offers an excellent opportunity to form a school-park cooperative agreement along with the development of a future school.



4. Community input was received regarding guidelines for sports facilities. Planning concepts include:
  - The desire to partner in acquiring and enhancing the existing facilities for wider-area, family recreational needs and programmed sports like soccer and adult and youth softball
  - The largest amount of community input regarding sports facilities was received for the SE area of the City with top priority placed on creating a school-park cooperative agreement to fill the stated need for more tennis courts in the area

---

## **PARK REHABILITATION**

Currently, due to the young age of the existing facilities, rehabilitation is not needed, however this section has been included and will be added to in future plan revisions when rehabilitation needs arise.

---

## **MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The City maintenance crews superbly maintain our existing facilities, however, as additional facilities are added and as the City expands the recreation programs offered, additional staff will be necessary to meet the changing needs. Formation of a City Parks and Recreation Department or creation of Parks and Recreation Manager position, as a subsidiary of the Planning & Community Development Department may help to maintain and possibly enhance the current maintenance and operations of our park facilities.

---

## **PROGRAM AND SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The City currently relies on the private sector for most recreation programming, however, as the community grows and community needs change, additional programs and services may need to be provided. Construction of a future city community center (youth, teen, senior center) may necessitate the City providing additional programs. Formation of a City Parks and Recreation Department or creation of Parks and Recreation Manager position, as a subsidiary of the Planning & Community Development Department may help to expand the programs offered within the community and create the opportunity for additional participation.

---

## **MISCELLANEOUS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Town Square**

A major focus of the Comprehensive Plan, that was also supported by members of the public that participated in the creation of this plan, was to create a town square which incorporated community history and public art. The creation of a pedestrian friendly town square would enhance the Liberty Lake Community with additional opportunities for year-round public gatherings and events, as well as aiding in the preservation of the distinctive history of the community through design elements and educational displays.

### **Open Space & Viewscape Protection**

Encourage landowners to participate in the Spokane County Conservation Futures Program or other land trust programs to ensure distinctive open space and viewscape protection.

### **Spokane County Regional Park Passes & Recreation Program Discounts**

The City of Liberty Lake may want to explore the possibility of providing free or reduced cost passes to the Spokane County Regional Park, to offer lake access to all members of the community. Additionally, the City may want to offer financial assistance to low-income residents for recreation program participation.

### **Park Equipment & Design**

Picnic benches with overhead shelters, sturdy park benches, and paved access for the disabled to utilize picnic tables, benches, etc., should be provided within City parks. Park designs should include areas for games such as bocci ball, croquet, badminton, etc., and grassy rolling hills for children. Additionally providing areas for frisbee golf and a dog exercise park should be explored.

### **Winter Recreation**

With minor modifications, economically feasible winter activities such as ice skating and ice hockey, could be available on the Trailhead pond or by creating rinks on existing courts, etc. Winter ice skating could also be incorporated into an outdoor pool complex design. Designated cross country skiing areas or trails and sledding hills should also be identified. Cross country skiing and snowshoe events could be conducted on designated portions of the City trail system.

## **SECTION XI**

### **ACTION PLAN**

Funding Sources	74
Capital Improvement Plan	74
Gaining Support for the Plan	75
On-Going Citizen Participation	75
Regional Coordination of Recreation Services	76
Annual Evaluation and Update	76

#### **FUNDING SOURCES**

Park and recreation facilities and open spaces are essential to a community's well being. Parks and open spaces help mitigate urban development, provide important ecological functions and provide recreation opportunities for citizens and visitors. For more detailed information on Parks and Open Space, see the Parks and Open Space element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. This Parks, Recreation, Trails, & Open Space Plan addresses the City's future parks, recreation, trails, and open space needs and the findings of this report will be used in subsequent amendment to the Capital Facilities Plan.

The Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County requires all jurisdictions to adopt a Level of Service (LOS) standard for parks. The City has the flexibility and freedom to establish a LOS standard for parks that reflects the expressed need and desire of the community. The City also has the obligation to ensure that the operation and maintenance needs of existing parks are met. The City's Parks and Open Space LOS is 30 acres per 1000 population which the City exceeds. The City presently boasts a Parks and Open Space LOS of 80 acres per 1000. Funding sources for improvements include the City General Fund, Grants, and / or a possible developer paid impact fee.

The Future City Annexation Area (FCAA) is currently served by Spokane County Parks and Recreation, and the Level of Service meets LOS standards. When this area is annexed by the City of Liberty Lake, the City will be serving the area, and the Level of Service will continue to exceed LOS standards. The funding sources for improvements will be the City General Fund, Grants, and / or a possible developer paid impact fee.

The City may also want to explore the options for charitable contributions to the parks system, such as donations from local philanthropic groups like Kiwanis, Rotary, etc., or memorial donations from private citizens and encourage innovative strategies and incentives (e.g., adopt-a-park, adopt-a-trail, adopt-a-space) to enhance existing programs for park maintenance, safety, and accessibility. Additionally the City may want to explore the idea of proposing a voter-approved self-taxing district for large scale improvements and facilities, such as construction of an outdoor swimming pool complex, to utilize as a funding source, conceivably in combination with grants, charitable contributions, etc. The City can also look into adopting a park, recreation, etc. facility rental fee schedule, similar to other local jurisdictions, that would contribute to park and other applicable facility maintenance and improvement costs.

#### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that communities plan for capital facilities to ensure an adequate level of facilities and services are in place to support development at time of occupancy or use. Public facilities are those physical improvements that are constructed primarily by the City and

provide the basic urban services of the municipality. Although the City of Liberty Lake currently provides limited urban services; it has the responsibility to ensure all services are planned for accordingly. Parks and trails, non-motorized transportation are two of the services that the City must plan for. These services are also included in the policy framework of the Capital Facilities Element with most of the capital facility planning recognized as the responsibility of the service provider.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a list of public improvement projects identified by the City. The list is updated annually and identifies all the capital projects the City could undertake given adequate revenues. Since the City's revenue is limited, the City prioritizes the projects in the CIP and chooses a portion of those projects based on need and finances available. Those projects chosen are adopted into the Capital Facilities Plan. A capital facilities plan is a long range financial plan that allows the City to prioritize public projects and identify funding sources. The Capital Facilities plan serves as a guide to the City's financial obligation in providing those facilities desired by the community. The City's Capital Facilities Plan provides supplemental information that complements the text, goals, and policies of the Capital Facilities Element in the Comprehensive Plan. It also provides an overview of the City's financial resources and funding opportunities. If the probable funding for capital facilities at any time is insufficient to meet existing needs, the land use element must be reassessed.

The CIP is linked to the City's annual budget through the Capital Facilities Plan in that the adopted budget is reflected as the first year's capital improvement expenditures. Each year the budget is updated, in addition to the Capital Facilities Plan, in order to reflect the adopted budget. An important distinction between the budget and CIP is that the one-year budget may become part of the legally adopted annual operating budget, whereas the longer-term CIP doesn't commit the City to a particular expenditure for a particular year. Thus, the CIP allows the City some flexibility in scheduling projects based on need or funding opportunities and doesn't lock the City into projects that may not be needed at time of funding.

Within the City's 2005.5 - 2011 Capital Facilities Plan, the following park related items have been identified, please refer to the City of Liberty Lake Capital Facilities Plan for more information on these projects and the proposed scheduling.

- Municipal Library / Community Center
- Golf Storage Building / Shop
- Trailhead Golf Course Driving Range Improvements / Construction of Shelters
- Trailhead Golf Course Irrigation System Automation Update
- Various pedestrian path and sidewalk improvements, associated with street improvements
- Liberty Lake Pedestrian Bridge

## **GAINING SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN**

---

By supplying the public with a thorough and current Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan that they helped to create and keeping them involved in the design and apprised of the construction of projects developed through the plan, public support will be gained and maintained for the City's Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan.

## **ON-GOING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

---

The City of Liberty Lake will seek involvement from residents and businesses in the update of this plan, conduct workshops to receive citizen feedback and enhance design ideas for specific parks, recreation, trails, and open space projects, and provide project updates and notices to citizens via the City newsletter and website, as well as the local newspaper, as applicable, to ensure that the public remains involved in parks, recreation, trails, and open space planning. On-going public involvement is key in retaining support for this plan.



---

## **REGIONAL COORDINATION OF RECREATION SERVICES**

The City will maintain or enhance our coordination with recreation service providers within the Liberty Lake Community and the surrounding area, and continue to update citizens about the recreation services available.

---

## **ANNUAL EVALUATION AND UPDATE**

The City's Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan should be re-evaluated on an annual basis during the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and City Budget cycles. By coordinating this plan with the City's Comprehensive Plan and the City's Capital Facilities Plan, the plan will remain current and useable. As the opportunity for additional projects becomes available or as funding sources change, this Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan must be updated. An annual evaluation process needs to incorporate public workshops, surveys, etc. to offer the best chances to gather additional public input and involvement.

# APPENDIX

Liberty Lake Trails Plan

Outline of Public Workshop Input Process & Workshop Results

Focus Groups Individual Comments

Quadrant Map

NE Comments

NW Comments

SE Comments

SW Comments

Public Survey Results

Site Development Checklist